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**CUC withdraws proposed hike in late payment fee, other NRRs. PAGE 3
69th Liberation Day festivities kick off today. PAGE 7**

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CMS extends CHC's recertification

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has again put off a final decision on the Commonwealth Health Center's recertification, this time giving the local healthcare corporation that runs the hospital another five months to rectify citations previously uncovered at the CNMI's lone public hospital.

See CMS on Page 4

FROM \$4,250 TO \$5,000 A MONTH

Rota, Tinian senators' subsistence allowance up

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Subsistence allowance for Rota and Tinian senators has been increased from \$4,250 to \$5,000 a month, while public comments will now be entertained right after approval of journal at the be-

ginning of every Senate session rather than in the middle of it.

These were among the approved changes in the Senate interim rules and are now part of the "Official Rules of the Senate for the 18th Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature" ad-

See ALLOWANCE on Page 4



TEEN BEAUTY QUEENS

Sixteen candidates of Stellar Marianas' Miss Marianas Teen 2014 have their picture taken yesterday at the Charley's Cabaret of Pacific Islands Club. This year, Stellar Marianas is holding the coronation night for Miss Teen Marianas 2014 on July 12, at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort. This year's Miss Marianas Teen will represent the Northern Marianas in the Miss Teen International pageant.

JAYSON CAMACHO



5 YEARS AFTER MARINE MONUMENT DECLARATION

US, NMI begin work on submerged lands co-management

» **Kilili: Obama's Pacific expansion plan does not include Marianas Monument but...**

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

More than five years since the presidential creation of the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument, the U.S. has started

working with the CNMI government on a co-management agreement that, once finalized, will pave the way for the Commonwealth to also control the submerged lands around Maug, Uracas, and Asuncion. Gov. Eloy S. Inos met with visiting

federal officials last week on preliminary co-management deal talks but there is still no specific timeline when this deal could be finalized.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-)
See SUBMERGED on Page 4



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'CPUC has no power to question validity of EO'

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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 REPORTER

The Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission does not have power to consider or question the validity of the executive order that approved the new fuel contract between the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. and Mobil Oil Marianas.

CUC counsel Deborah Fisher told the regulatory body in a June 25 filing that if the commission desires a determination of whether a particular EO is valid, then it should go to the CNMI courts to obtain an answer.

The CPUC's duties and authority are specifically cited under 4 CMC 841(a) and these include: to regulate rates, fares, fees, charges, services, rules, conditions of service, and all other matters pertaining to the formation, operation and direction of a regulated entity. Additionally, CPUC may investigate and examine rates and charges. The provision provides too that the commission may promulgate other orders that are "necessary and appropriate for the exercise of its regulatory and enforcement powers."

Fisher said that questioning an EO's validity is clearly excluded from the commission's purview.

"None of the enumerated powers give or could give the commission the power of the judicial branch to decide whether an EO is valid. Accordingly, this cannot be a matter to consider as part of a regulatory process. There is no statutory basis for the commission to put on its agenda for an upcoming session the question of whether an EO executed by the governor is valid for the purpose of bootstrapping in the issue of whether CUC's fuel supply contract is a valid contract," said Fisher.

In the June 13 report of CPUC hearing examiner Harry Boertzel, CPUC determined

that the fuel contract is invalid. This was based on the opinion issued by the commission counsel, which was also provided to the governor.

Boertzel also said that CUC is violating CPUC regulations when the agency failed to give the commission a copy of the fuel contract. He described the \$360-million fuel contract as having had a "troublesome regulatory history" and raised doubts about its validity because it was not approved by CPUC.

But, according to Fisher, Boertzel's recommendation is not appropriate and should not be considered by CPUC.

"The intent to open proceedings to make appropriate regulatory reactions to the Mobil fuel contract implies that the contract is defective," said Fisher, adding that there has been no hearing and no evidence formally presented to the hearing examiner that would cause this implication to be placed into the record as part of the hearing process.

'Mischaracterized'

Fisher revealed that CUC's amended petition has been mischaracterized as "fuel procurement" where in fact, it was merely a petition for the approval of an RFP to advertise for fuel procurement submitted to CPUC before the EO was issued.

CUC, she added, continues to assert its position that the mere publication of an RFP for a contract, which may increase rates and charges to a utility customer, is not an appropriate matter for CPUC review and approval under the law.

"But whether this issue is resolved in CUC's favor or not, it is clear that the commission does not have the power to make a finding or decision regarding the legality of a governor's executive order," added Fisher.

CUC and Mobil inked the six-year fuel contract on May 1 at a cost of \$360 million

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CUC withdraws proposed hike in late payment fee, other NRRs

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s board of directors has decided to recall a number of proposed new fees it filed with the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission.

CUC, through its lawyer Deborah Fisher, formally notified the commission on Wednesday that it will be filing a separate notice that would specifically withdraw the non-revenue rate proposals that are awaiting the commission's decision.

At the June 19 meeting of

16 course sections for NMC summer enrollees

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College disclosed yesterday that it will enroll approximately 210 students in 16 course sections for this school year's summer classes.

The college pushed back its traditional start date of its summer session by approximately one month from May to June.

Classes for the summer period is slated for six weeks, which began Monday, June 23.

"Our first day of class is now scheduled after the last high school graduation date," said Manny Castro, NMC admissions director/registrar.

The schedule was developed, he added, "to strategically align with the Public School System schedule and our mutual goals of promoting college enrollment and opportunities for high school students to get a head

start toward completing a college degree."

The college, through funds made available by the College Access Challenge Grant, also offers scholarships to eligible high school juniors, seniors, and first-year college students who enroll during the summer session.

Of more than 200 applicants for a CACG scholarship, it was disclosed that 100 were selected for an award and 60 randomly selected awardees were invited to participate in the CACG Summer Academy.

The CACG Summer Academy participants attend college courses and participate in a variety of college-preparatory and skill-building activities throughout the six-week program.

The CACG Summer Academy activities are facilitated by college staff and student ambassadors who work as a team to provide tutorial support and serve as mentors.

the CUC board, the Senate and House public utilities transportation and communications committee chairs, Sen. Pete Reyes (IR-Saipan) and Rep. Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), on behalf of customers, jointly appealed that these rate petitions be withdrawn to avert further hardships on ratepayers.

"After meeting with the CUC board, it has been determined that CUC shall recall certain matters from the CPUC consideration," according to Fisher.

She said a separate notice will soon be filed with CPUC formally withdrawing the proposed increase in late payment fee. CUC, which currently charges 1 percent of the past due amount as late payment charge, wants this increased to 10 per-

cent of the past due amount.

Fisher also disclosed the withdrawal of the increased fee for a new single-phase service connection fee (from \$135 to \$450), the new fees recommended for three-phase new service connection, and for after-hour single-phase service connection fee.

At the last CPUC hearing this month, Fisher said that CUC already informed the commission of its intention to recall the proposed renewable energy fees for installation and annual inspection fee. Fisher reiterated this last Wednesday.

With this latest development, what's left on the CPUC table for action are three remaining non-revenue rate proposals. These include the proposed

\$550 unauthorized electric service reconnection fee, the proposed \$200 reconnection at the pole fee, and the proposed increase in investigation fee from \$60 to \$210. All this remaining proposals were described as necessary, just, and reasonable, based on the joint stipulation of CUC and CPUC's consultant, Georgetown Consulting.

Docket No. 13-01 has been with CPUC since July 2013. It is a rate case petition comprising various components of which some have been adjudicated and acted on by CPUC this year. This case was filed prior to the revival of the CUC board.

According to the Legislature, it is only fitting that, as the decision-making body of the agency, the CUC board should

have the final say on whether or not there's a need to petition for rate adjustment—not CUC's management.

In the original rate petition, CUC endorsed changes and adjustments on 20 non-revenue rates. About 10 of these have been approved while 11 items were left for commission consideration at its fall regulatory meeting.

NRRs are isolated fees endorsed for specific customers.

This is the second time that CUC, pursuant to the decision of its board, withdrew rate proposals. It will be recalled that the agency also withdrew last month the standby charge previously recommended by CUC for its large commercial customers.

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Tinian Dynasty casino VIP services manager enters deal with US govt

BY FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino VIP services manager George Que has entered an agreement with the U.S. government in exchange for the dismissal of the criminal charges filed against him.

Assistant U.S. attorney Marivic David and Que, through counsel Robert Torres, filed on Wednesday in the U.S. District Court for the NMI a deferred prosecution agreement.

David and Torres also filed a joint motion for court approval of their deferred prosecution agreement.

Under the agreement, the case against Que will be held in

abeyance for 18 months.

The U.S. has agreed that if Que is in compliance with the conditions of the agreement, it will drop the indictment filed against him.

Que was among those charged with engaging in a conspiracy to allow gamblers to conduct transactions involving more than \$10,000 without filing the required paperwork with the U.S. government.

The indictment, which was filed in May 2013, also charged TDHC casino manager Tim Blyth and Hong Kong Entertainment (Overseas) Investments Ltd, which owns the Dynasty.

Last February, Blyth also entered the same agreement with

the U.S. government in exchange for the dismissal of the charges against him. The federal court approved the deferred prosecution agreement.

With respect to Que's deal, he acknowledged the indictment charging him with one count of conspiracy to cause a financial institution to fail to file a Currency Transaction Report and nine counts of causing a financial institution to fail to file a CTR.

Que acknowledged responsibility for his conduct and agreed to continue his cooperation with the U.S. government in its investigation and that he will no longer work in any position in a financial institution in the United States in which he would su-

pervise employees responsible for handling currency.

The manager also agreed to pay at least \$5,000 for any civil monetary penalty imposed by the U.S. government or its agencies.

The U.S. government agreed that Que may leave the CNMI and reside outside the U.S. during the term of the deferred prosecution (18 months).

According to the statement of facts in the agreement, Que was aware that regulations required Dynasty to file a Currency Transaction Report whenever it engaged in a transaction involving either cash in or cash out of more than \$10,000 during a single gaming day.

Before concluding any such

transaction, Dynasty was also required to verify and record, among other things, the name and address of the individual presenting a transaction.

During Que's tenure as VIP services manager between March 1, 2011, and April 24, 2013, Dynasty failed to prepare CTR forms for approximately \$27 million in reportable currency transactions required by the Bank Secrecy Act and its regulations.

In addition, Dynasty failed to fully identify and disclose all individuals involved in or actually conducting the transactions and did not include any Social Security numbers or tax ID numbers on the CTR forms.

Furthermore, TDHC failed to file even those CTR forms that were prepared, causing a total of about \$90 million in reportable transactions to not be filed.

In May 2012 and September 2012, Que spoke via telephone to an undercover law enforcement agent and assured him that he and his Russian busi-

ness associate, another undercover agent, could gamble at Dynasty with large amounts of currency and that no paperwork would be filed by the casino to report such transactions, except to the CNMI Customs at the Saipan airport.

Between Feb. 28, 2013, and March 4, 2013, two undercover law enforcement agents posed as casino players at the TDHC and conducted currency transactions totaling \$450,130.

Blyth, the casino general manager, and Que met the undercover agents and knew they each conducted several currency transactions that required the preparation and filing of CTRs.

Dynasty failed to develop, implement, and maintain an effective anti-money laundering program, as part of a pattern of illegal activity involving more than \$100,000 in a 12-month period.

"As a result, [Dynasty], Blyth, and Que failed to identify and report potential money laundering activity," according to the deferred prosecution agreement.

fied prior to Nov. 14, 2014, we will proceed with the termination action."

Muña told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that she's grateful to CMS for providing the corporation more time.

"We are grateful to CMS for granting us this extension to allow us more time to demonstrate what we've done since the survey conducted in September 2012. We never slowed down to improve and I'm so proud of our hospital team for their commitment and acknowledgement that we must continue to monitor the effectiveness of our plans of correction," Muña said.

CMS earlier identified 13 deficiencies at the public hospital. In January this year, it found that only four citations were considered satisfied, which means nine other deficiencies remain unresolved. CMS then gave the hospital until June 27 to rectify this.

These outstanding deficiencies are in the areas of governing body; quality assurance and performance improvement; medical staff; nursing services; medical record services; food and dietary services; physical environment; infection control; and discharge planning.

CMS earlier pointed out that by virtue of the new extension, CHC was given the opportunity to retain Medicare certification for an additional time period, notwithstanding the findings of the September 2013 survey and the facility's record of non-compliance.

Based on the September 2013 survey of CMS, no immediate jeopardy was uncovered. Immediate jeopardy is issued to a provider if a deficiency is "likely to cause serious injury, harm, impairment or death."

In the September 2012 survey, CHC was issued three IJs, which were all later abated.

SUBMERGED

From Page 1

(MP), meanwhile, said the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument "is not included" in President Barack Obama's proposed vast expansion of a Pacific Ocean marine sanctuary.

But the CNMI still has to be prepared to respond to any suggestions from other entities to expand the Marianas Trench Monument.

Although the president did not announce any intention to expand the Marianas Trench Monument, Sablan said "the Pew Charitable Trust did respond to the news by suggesting an expansion of the Marianas Monument."

"So I think that it is likely that we will see that suggestion among the public comments that are submitted to the White House over the summer. And I would certainly encourage everyone in the Northern Marianas to participate in this opportunity to let the President know what you think about how we can best protect our oceans," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune*.

ALLOWANCE

From Page 1

opted only yesterday—barely six months before the end of the 18th Senate.

By a vote of 8-0, senators adopted Senate Vice President Victor B. Hocog's (R-Rota) Senate Resolution 18-30. Absent from yesterday's session was Sen. Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota).

Rota and Tinian senators' monthly subsistence allowance had been a thorny issue during previous Legislatures, as the government grapples with limited funds to provide critical public services.

But one of the senators said yesterday it was "not an increase, we are just bringing it back to \$5,000 similar to past Legislatures." The senator said the \$750 difference also came from the operational account and they are just bringing it to

The governor met last week with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration-Fisheries' Michael Tosatto and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Robyn Thorson.

The visit, according to press secretary Angel Demapan, was "basically to signal the start of putting together a co-management agreement."

"Basically, the federal side will work with the CNMI representatives to the Marine Monument Advisory Council to draft an agreement for review. At this point, this process has not started," Demapan said.

The press secretary said the CNMI didn't get any information from the visiting group whether the Marianas Trench Monument is part of Obama's planned expansion of the Pacific marine sanctuary.

Last week's meeting between CNMI officials, USFWS, and NOAA also came five months since Obama signed a proclamation temporarily withholding the transfer to the CNMI of submerged lands around five islands that are either part of a national marine monument or under lease to the U.S. mili-

tary, until a co-management agreement is made, among other things.

Obama exempted from the transfer to the CNMI the control of submerged lands around Farallon de Pajaros (Uracas), Maug, and Asuncion, which are part of the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument, as well as Tinian and Farallon de Medinilla that are under lease to the U.S. military.

Inos and the Legislature asked for a firm 180-day timeline to come up with a co-management plan, among other things, but the Obama administration did not consider this.

Obama's plan

Sablan said Obama's proposed expansion of a Pacific marine sanctuary is about the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument, which is south and west of Hawaii, protecting areas around Kingman Reef, Palmyra Atoll, Howland Island, Baker Island, Jarvis Island, Johnston Atoll, and Wake Island.

Like the Marianas Trench Monument, the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monu-

ment was also established by President Bush in 2009.

Sablan said Obama, in an announcement last week, said that before making any decision about the exact geographic scope and details of future marine protections, he would be taking comments and recommendations from fishermen, scientists, conservation experts, government officials, and other members of the public.

"The White House said that it was particularly interested in understanding the extent of commercial activity that would be affected by any expansion of the Remote Islands Monument. Recreational fishing is already allowed there. Although the president did not announce any intention to expand the Marianas Trench Monument, the Pew Charitable Trust did respond to the news by suggesting an expansion of the Marianas Monument," Sablan said.

Some members of the CNMI Legislature, including House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), said they will monitor developments about the president's plans.

but outside the member's senatorial district. That figure used to be \$4,250.

A senator who is not an officer or a vice chair of a committee may use on a per diem basis \$175 to defray the cost of food, lodging, transportation, and other incidental expenses incurred by attending to legislative business in the CNMI but outside the member's senatorial district—provided that the total sum of all covered expenses in any given month does not exceed \$5,000. It used to be "not more than \$4,250."

Two of three senators from Saipan—Senate floor leader Ray Yumul (Ind-Saipan) and Sen. Pete Reyes (Ind-Saipan)—confirmed that they do not get a penny out of subsistence allowance. Senate President Ralph Torres (Ind-Saipan) couldn't be reached for comment.

Moreover, at the House of Representatives, the members from Tinian and Rota have a

subsistence allowance of up to \$4,000 only. One of them, Rep. Trenton Conner (Ind-Tinian), said he usually requests only \$3,000.

The monthly subsistence allowance is on top of certain lawmakers' constitutionally capped monthly salary and other benefits.

SOCIA, confirmations

By an 8-0 vote, the Senate adopted yesterday House Joint Resolution 18-17, calling for a joint session of the Legislature to accept the governor's State of the Commonwealth Address on June 30 at 10am at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

Senators also confirmed Gov. Eloy S. Inos' re-appointments of Barrie C. Toves to serve on the Commonwealth Ports Authority board of directors representing Rota, and Eric Plinske to serve on the Civil Service Commission representing Saipan.

Despite the new extension, CMS pointed out that failure to comply with all CMS requirements before the new November deadline will force CMS to go ahead and revoke the hospital's certification.

"Please bear in mind that although CMS will continue to consult with CHC concerning compliance matters, ultimately it is CHC's responsibility to ensure that the facility complies with Medicare requirements," states CMS.

Accordingly, it added, "if compliance cannot be veri-

Sales person sues ex-employer over wage, OT issues

A sales person has filed a lawsuit in federal court against her former Guam employer for allegedly not paying her the minimum wage and overtime.

Lorna S. Baro, through counsel Michael W. Dotts, is suing Guam businessman George Redoble for violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act, Commonwealth Minimum Wage and Hour Act, and breach of contract.

Baro asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to hold Redoble liable for damages, restitution, attorney's fees, and costs.

When sought for comments, Redoble said he will answer the

complaint in court.

Dotts stated in the complaint that Redoble is in the business of a roadside vendor selling fish, local fruits and vegetables, and commercial fishing in the CNMI.

From July 4, 2011 until April 5, 2014, Baro worked for Redoble, selling fish.

Dotts said under the contract, Baro should be paid an agreed hourly wage rate of \$5.55 per hour, or the minimum wage in effect, whichever was higher.

Baro usually worked from 7am to 12pm, and then from 1pm to 6pm, Monday through Saturday.

5 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged five Saipan beaches and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Affected sites are Bird Island Beach, Hidden Beach, Ladder Beach, Unai Dangkulo, and Old Man by the Sea.

Samples collected from these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Qual-

ity Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainage every Tuesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. (DEQ)

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Dotts said Redoble paid Baro gross wages in the amount of \$400 monthly, regardless of the number of hours worked during any given pay period.

Dotts said Redoble did not

maintain time cards or time sheets that recorded the hours of Baro's work.

During the employment, Baro's primary duty was selling fish and she did not regularly exercise any managerial author-

ity within the business.

The lawyer said that, while employed by Redoble, Baro regularly worked in excess of 40 hours per week, but was not compensated for overtime.

Dotts said the wages paid by

Woodruff issues \$25K to pay ex-clients, court disciplinary counsel

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman ordered yesterday the distribution of \$25,536 that disbarred lawyer Stephen C. Woodruff has agreed to pay his former clients and the court in connection with several disciplinary cases filed against him.

Wiseman said that Woodruff has agreed to comply with the

assessments in the disbarment order by issuing a check to the Superior Court.

Wiseman said the court is now ready to distribute those funds.

In his disbarment order on June 7, 2013, Wiseman found the lawyer to have 44 violations of the Model Rules of Professional Conduct.

In that order, the judge required Woodruff to pay costs to the court for the prosecution of the disciplinary cases and or-

dered him to reimburse clients who lodged complaints against him with the CNMI Bar Disciplinary Committee.

In the order of distribution, Wiseman directed the clerk of court to issue checks to eight persons, with varying amounts that range from \$3,000 to \$100.

Wiseman also ordered the clerk of court to issue a check for \$7,913 to the CNMI Bar Association as payment of 50 percent of disciplinary coun-

sel Thomas Clifford's fees and costs and a check for \$7,913 as reimbursement for the Superior Court's payment of 50 percent of the disciplinary counsel's fees and costs.

Wiseman noted that while the assignment total includes the disciplinary counsel's estimated unbilled fees and costs, the court will not reimburse the Bar Association for those amounts until they are billed and paid.

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Liberation Queen candidates appeal for public's support

By JAYSON CAMACHO
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REPORTER

The 2014 Liberation Day Queen Committee is appealing to the public for support for its fundraising efforts by buying tickets from those aspiring to become this year's 2014 Liberation Day Queen.

The four candidates, who were introduced to the public on May 27, 2014, during a pinning ceremony at the Saipan Mayor's Office, need the public's help in supporting their candidacy to become this year's queen.

In the weeks since their introduction, the candidates have been selling tickets at \$5 per booklet.

Liberation Day Queen Committee chair Joann Aquino

told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that the candidates have also been busy doing community volunteerism.

The Liberation Day Queen coronation night will take place at the Garapan Fishing Base on July 2 at 6pm.

This year's candidates are Pressel Camacho, 15; Desiree Crisostomo, 20; Rita Doca, 19; and Gilitinon Ramangmou, 18.

Camacho, a student at Kagman High School, said it was her childhood dream to run for Liberation Day Queen.

Crisostomo joined the competition to meet new people and have fun. Her inspiration for joining is her sister, Elenita Crisostomo, who ran for Liberation Day Queen in 2001 and became one of the royal princesses.

Doca said she thought it would be fun to join the pageant and that it is one of the many things she could be involved with in the community.

Ramangmou said she joined for experience and that her family motivated her to join. Her inspiration in joining the competition is her sister, Stacy Ramangmou, who egged her to try something new.

According to Aquino, the candidates did a photo shoot last Saturday, June 21, at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort. They will also be on the cover of *Beach Road* magazine and will take a tour on a U.S. Navy ship this Monday, June 23.

Aquino told *Saipan Tribune* that the candidates are having free nail and makeup done by



JAYSON CAMACHO

The 2014 Liberation Candidates pose with Michelle's Catering and Restaurant owner Robert Casilla after being treated to a free lunch.

one of the sponsors and recently added another sponsor, Michelle's Catering and Restaurant in San Antonio.

According to owner Robert Casilla, sponsoring the candidates is his way of helping out. His restaurant and catering service opened on May 8 and the candidates were treated to

free lunch.

The 2014 Liberation Day Queen Committee is also encouraging past Liberation Day queens to attend one of the committee meetings to support this year's candidates. The next meeting will be at the Saipan Mayor's Office conference room this Saturday, June 38, at 10am.

Saipan Mayor's Office secures \$100K for heavy equipment

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson.camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

After four months and four letters asking for heavy equipment, the Saipan Mayor's Office finally secured \$100,000 for the purpose after the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation passed an appropriations bill on June 24.

Saipan Mayor Marian Deleon Guerrero Tudela told *Saipan Tribune* it is good to have a portion of the money and that they will use it to procure heavy equipment.

Last Feb. 19, the late mayor Donald Flores wrote Gov. Eloy S. Inos and the delegation, requesting to include the mayor's office on the list of agencies that will be given a portion of the \$2,717,969 in bond funds that the administration and the Commonwealth Development Authority said was available for appropriation.

Flores took immediate steps to submit his request for some \$400,000 to \$500,000 for the purpose of acquiring heavy equipment.

On March 27, Flores wrote another letter to Inos and SNILD, notifying them of the current status of the mayor's office and asking for \$100,000. The amount would be used to pay for operational expenses such as road repair, water delivery, removal of debris, and more up to the end of the fiscal year.

In his letter, the late mayor said his office would incur a budget shortfall of \$10,814 by the end of fiscal year 2014 if he doesn't get the amount he is

asking for.

On April 11, Flores submitted his written comments on House Local Bill 18-51 to delegation chair Ray Tebuteb (IR-Saipan) and House on Ways and Means Committee chair Tony Sablan (IR-Saipan).

In it, he restated his message contained in his March 27 letter to Inos and the delegation that his office will incur a budget shortfall and that his office needs at least \$500,000 to buy new heavy equipment.

On June 17, Tudela submitted her written request to Tebuteb and comments on HLB 18-51. Tudela asked that \$100,000 be appropriated for the mayor's office for the purpose of paying some \$47,806 in arrears, which the mayor's office accrued from heavy equipment rental.

At the time Tudela's June 17 letter was being prepared, they computed outstanding heavy equipment rental charges at \$47,806. On June 20, however, the company that the mayor's office contracted for a road motor grader for the road projects billed a total of \$16,320 in rental charges for the grader alone and \$61,246 in total rental fees.

According to the Saipan Mayor's Office special adviser Henry Hofsneider, House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (IR-Saipan) said that the money can only be used to buy heavy equipment.

"We wanted \$100,000 to help with operation expenses and we've been renting heavy equipment but now the money can only be used for heavy equipment," Hofsneider said.

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69th Liberation Day kicks off today

The 69th Liberation Day finally kicks off today, June 27, at the Garapan Fishing Base across Kristo Rai Church along Beach Road in Garapan. The celebration will run all the way until July 6.

The 69th Liberation Day Committee would like to in-

form the public that it is still accepting applications for non-consumable vendors and food vendors with an alcohol license as well as parade participants.

"The plan is to bring in and allow alcohol and there will be a section to control the alcohol and have nightly entertainment

as well," Liberation committee chair Vicente Camacho said. There are 10 more booths available for all vendors.

"Vendors can also start setting up as early as 6am today," Camacho said.

According to Camacho, this year's theme is "Reunion of

Honor: Tribute to the Mayors" since the islands just lost former mayors Prudencio Manglona and Donald Glenn P. Flores.

"We are still going to have a parade and that parade is going to be dedicated to the mayors," Camacho told *Saipan Tribune*. "We might

have to put the families of the late mayors on convertibles to highlight all of them."

According to Camacho, the fees for the competitive floats are being waived.

The deadline to submit an application for parade participants, which also includes the float competition and regular floats, is this June 30.

The Liberation Day Committee is still looking for entertainers, performers, participants, food vendors, and those who plan to join this year's 69th celebration of Liberation Day.

For more information, contact the Saipan Mayor's Office at (670) 234-2608 or Camacho at (670) 287-5351. (*Jayson Camacho*)



PACIFICA DONATES

Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc. staff member Samantha Sikayun, fourth right, presents a check to Northern Marianas Weightlifting Association member Jose Quan, third right, in support of the association's fundraising efforts to defray costs of travel and accommodation associated with their trip to the upcoming Micronesian Games slated for July 20 in Pohnpei. Also in the photo is Bo Palacios, far right, and two other NMWA members.

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Seating limited to 100 people. Please register early.

Send registration forms to jfostertraining@hotmail.com (Subject Block Title "DSM V Registration") or call (671) 777-0292 for over the phone registration. Payments can be made with cash, check (make checks payable to J. Foster's Training Solutions) at the Bank of Guam or approved purchase orders (send P.O. to me). Please call Ms. Tiara Evangelista at 670-323-6560/1 if you need further clarification.

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Your 2013 CUC Annual Water Quality Report is now available on-line!

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If you need the report translated, wish to speak with someone about the report, or would like a paper copy delivered or emailed to you, please call CUC at (670) 664-4282.

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Yóómw 2013 CUC Annual Water Quality Report nge a llo on-line!

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I iyom-mu 2013 CUC Annual na Ripot Kuálidåt Hånum esta på'gu gumuaha gi on-line!

Put fabot hånåo para i <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/CCR-2013.pdf> para u ma'atan håfa na contaminants manmasodda' gi halum hanom-mu gi 2013 yan para un tung'u más put i hanum magimin. Esti na ripot ha sasahguan siha manimpottånti na imfotmasion put i source yan kuálidåt i hanum magimin.

Yanggin un nisisita i ripot matranslåda, ya malagu' håró kumuentusi hårí put i ripot pat malagu' håró kopian påppit u ma'entrega pat mana'hånao guatu para håró, put fabot ågang i CUC gi (670) 664-4282.

Quitugua found a threat, danger; ordered detained

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona has ordered the continued detention of Daniel M. Quitugua pending his trial after deeming him a threat and a danger to others.

In a hearing on Wednesday afternoon, Manglona noted that Quitugua has an extensive criminal history and that despite constant efforts to counsel him, he continues to abuse drugs and engage in drug activities.

Quitugua is a federal probationer who was indicted for the alleged illegal guns and ammunitions that he left behind when he fled police officers who stopped him for a traffic stop.

Manglona expressed concern over Quitugua's potential danger to the community and others.

Manglona reset Quitugua's jury trial from Aug. 25, 2014, to Sept. 2, 2014.

The hearing on the government's petition to revoke Quitugua's probation will be held on Oct. 1, 2014.

In the U.S. government's motion for detention, Assistant U.S. attorney Garth Backe asserted that the weight of evidence against Quitugua is overwhelming and that there is no condition or combination of conditions that can reasonably assure the safety of the community.

Attorney Michael Dotts, counsel for Quitugua, asked the court to give serious consideration to the weight of the evidence, as well as the weight of the documents. Dotts argued for Quitugua's release.

After the hearing, Manglona remanded Quitugua to the custody of the U.S. Marshal to be returned to his original custodian, the Department of Corrections.

The indictment charged Quitugua with one count of felon in possession of firearm.

According to the indictment, Quitugua was found in possession of one or more firearms and rounds of ammunition on May 23, 2014, specifically one Sig Sauer model P226 9mm pistol, one Smith & Wesson .38 caliber revolver, 90 rounds of .45 caliber ammunition, 50 rounds of .38 caliber ammunition, and 62 rounds of 9mm ammunition.

Quitugua was convicted in federal court in 2005 of charges related to robbing a poker arcade in 2004. He was slapped with a 120-month prison term followed by a five-year supervised release. Quitugua's supervised release began on Jan. 14, 2013.

Police arrested Quitugua for allegedly speeding and fleeing from police officers near Northern Marianas College on May 23, 2014, leaving behind a bag that had three illegal guns and bullets. (Ferdie de la Torre)

Flashback A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

June 27, 2006

Fund taps \$1.3M of assets

The NMI Retirement Fund board approved Friday the release of \$1.3 million in investment money for pension payments this week. Fund administrator Karl T. Reyes said yesterday that the money is part of "excess" funds from the NMIRF's investment portfolio. The Fund board earlier identified \$14.4 million in "excess" investment monies for pension use up to September this year.

'We will pursue govt collections'

The NMI Retirement Fund said it would soon pursue legal action—either a petition for a temporary restraining order, a lawsuit, or both—against the central government following the enactment of a law suspending its employer contribution to the Fund. "The board has taken the position to contest and challenge the action of the government. We are going to push through our collections with the government," said Fund board chair Joseph Reyes in an interview yesterday. The board held a special meeting Friday last week to discuss the matter. He could not say exactly when the Fund will file the restraining order or the lawsuit, saying the agency's attorneys are still working on it.

June 27, 2007

CNMI offline for hours

The CNMI went offline for hours due to an "unforeseen" technical problem that beleaguered Pacific Telecom, Inc. early morning yesterday and created a communication vacuum that befuddled business establishments and offices on the three islands. At 10:30am yesterday, the islands went offline losing all Internet connection and services and some cellular communications. Internet connection and services resumed at around 8pm yesterday. PTI regional marketing manager Kathryn Barry said the company worked round the clock on the connectivity issues between the CNMI and Guam.

Downed voltage line causes islandwide outages

A downed high voltage primary power line in Chalan Kiya triggered island-wide outages on Saipan yesterday. Of eight electrical grids, only one was spared by outages that happened between 12:56am to 5:34am. The areas not affected were the Commonwealth Health Center, Chinatown, Navy Hill, and parts of Garapan or the Duty Free area. Commonwealth Utilities Corp. spokesperson Pamela Mathis told Saipan Tribune that a tree caused the high voltage line in the golf area behind McDonald's to fall at 12:56am. Mathis said as a result, they lost the 13-megawatt generator at Power Plant 4 in Puerto Rico instantaneously.

June 27, 2008

For some workers, wages are still at \$3.05 an hour

Hikes in the local minimum wage have put a strain on scores of businesses in the Commonwealth, yet labor activists report some are skirting the recent increases by secretly paying workers less than the law requires. "We wish this wasn't happening but we know for a fact that it is," said Irene Tantiado, president of the Coalition of United Workers, a local labor group. Informants have reported that at least three restaurants, a major construction company and a private security company on Saipan are paying workers less than the current minimum wage, she said, adding that it is likely many more violators of the law remain hidden.

US Army, NMI to ink community covenant

The U.S. Army and local officials will formalize their support for the Commonwealth's soldiers, other service members, and their families by signing the Army Community Covenant next week. The Covenant is "designed to develop and foster effective government and community partnership with the Army in improving the quality of life for soldiers, other servicemembers and their families both at the current duty station and as they transfer from state to state and deployment," according to information from the Army. The Covenant is an Army initiative, and intended to be hosted and led by the community. It is a formal commitment of support by the state and local community to the soldiers, other servicemembers in active duty, guard and reserve. The document is being signed at every installation across the country. The CNMI signing ceremony will be held on Saturday, July 5, 2008, starting at 10am, at the American Memorial Park amphitheater.



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DO YOU CARE WHETHER TINIAN AND ROTA WILL PROSPER ALONG WITH SAIPAN? If the people choose casino gaming on Saipan, **MARIANAS STARS** has a plan to ensure that the islands will develop together. Our sister company has already invested over \$40 million on Tinian, and has plans to invest over \$600 million more for a 5-star hotel, luxury villas, a golf course, a water park and other projects. If we are fortunate enough to receive a license on Saipan, we would have every incentive to make sure that our projects on both islands prosper. Part of our plan would be to improve transportation links between the islands—not only to transport guests back and forth between Saipan and Tinian, but to provide much improved connections to Rota and Guam as well.

DO YOU CARE WHETHER THE CNMI GETS THE MONEY IT NEEDS TO HELP RETIREES, STUDENTS, WORKERS AND EVERYONE ELSE? If the people choose casino gaming on Saipan, **MARIANAS STARS** respectfully requests that the following proposal be considered: Don't just award one license, award two—assuming each applicant meets the qualifications. Take the current plan for one 2,000-room mega-resort and split it into two 1,000-room resorts. But keep the fees the same for each licensee, so that the CNMI gets a total of \$30 million per year from the two licensees rather than just \$15 million from one. Each applicant will get half a loaf, but the CNMI will get twice the revenue for the retirees. For health care. For schools. For infrastructure. For everyone. Healthy competition will create greater prosperity and greater accountability. More importantly, a non-monopoly assures the integrity of the process, removing any suspicion that legislation was rushed, or designed, for any one bidder.

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Opinion

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Saipan Tribune

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AP The Associated Press Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

A kidnapping mystery on the West Bank

Three teenage boys disappear without a trace, apparently while hitchhiking. If this happened somewhere in the Midwest, it would be an agonizing mystery and a police matter. Shift the incident to the Mideast, and you have a far more complex and dangerous political drama.

Three Israeli students—a 19-year-old and two 16-year-olds, one of whom has dual Israeli-American citizenship—were last seen June 12 in the West Bank, heading home from school. They are believed to have been hitchhiking, or tremping, a fairly common way for younger Jews to get around in the West Bank, though it's recognized as risky.

No one has claimed responsibility for their disappearance, but Israeli officials, led by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, say they know who abducted the teens: members of Hamas, the terrorist organization that supports the Palestinian Authority unity government. Netanyahu says he has proof, but he has yet to share evidence with the public.

The situation grows more tense by the day. Hamas won't confirm or deny responsibility but has gloated, praised the abductions and made it clear that the recent rapprochement between Hamas and the Fatah party of Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas is fragile.

Abbas denounced the kidnapping—and Netanyahu said he appreciated that statement. But Abbas' comments have stoked Palestinian anger that he seems to be capitulating to the Israeli show of force. Violent clashes between Palestinians and Israelis have led to several deaths, including that of a Palestinian teen who was shot in the chest. The clashes have prompted worry that the apparent kidnapping could trigger a wider, more violent conflict.

If the kidnapping turns out to have Hamas fingerprints, Abbas will have to swear off his new unity partners...or forfeit his credibility in the eyes of the rest of the world.

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Global turmoil fuels a sharp rise in refugee displacement

A United Nations report on refugees and internally displaced persons released last week revealed an appallingly high number of them in the world at the end of 2013—51 million, up 11 million from the year before. Even worse, half of them were children.

The total, which covers 34 million internally displaced by war within their countries and 17 million refugees driven into neighboring states, has risen sharply from 4 million in 1975 and 9 million in 2004. The origins of the rise lie in various troubled countries.

Longstanding sources of displacement include Afghanistan, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Palestine and Somalia. More recent generators of people on the run are the Central African Republic, Iraq, South Sudan, Syria and Ukraine.

See GLOBAL on Page 13



Lego. Let it go.

I come to the end of my visits to the families of my eldest daughters. The first lives in the outskirt of Chicago and the second in Concord by the East Bay Area of San Francisco. I have four grandsons (two from each family) and Liam in Chicago at 4 is neurologically challenged. He has difficulty with time, doing things immediately in the "now" and impatient to wait out the long-term, has a contrarian bent, and tends to show repetitive behavior. The last category classifies him under ASD, the Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Liam's older brother Sullivan, who is 6, is a wonder in speech and comprehension, way ahead of his age group and grade level (he enters first grade this semester at third grade reading level). He is also a Lego builder. The McDonald's allure may work a while but there is no way he can be distracted from a visit to any local Lego world familiar or known to him. He cruises the Internet for their locations. Happily, the public library of Palatine, Illinois, where he lives has a Lego world in its children's section. His parents also remind him to tidy the plastic bits and pieces he inadvertently leaves behind on their living room floor.

Sullivan has the *World of Lego* movie, the first in a series of three, the second for release in 2017, and the third in 2020. Lego Group, the Denmark company that manufactures the construction toys, holds the flagship product, Lego (from the Danish phrase *leg godt*, which means "play well"), of colorful interlocking plastic bricks as gears, minifigures, etc. The movie relates the world of an ordinary worker who falls into the abyss of his universe and chosen to play the "special" one who wears the "piece de resistance" (a rehash of the old messianic role).

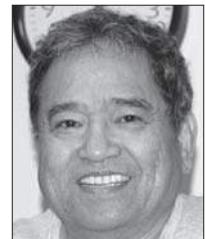
Fast forward, the movie's theme: creativity and innovation, does not come from just following the instruction manual like many Lego players do, nor is the permanence of the *krazy glue* an option. Lego is about construction and deconstruction, like life itself, where beauty and passion is found in the process more than in the product. A glued product, good for show casing, is dead rather than alive. "We are not in the business of making a living," my father used to say. "We are in the business of living a life." I added, the finitude of the same is shrouded with the awe of mystery!

Liam had a DVD of the new cartoon movie *Frozen*. I did not get to see it while in Chicago but my two grandsons in the Bay Area of San Francisco, Dillon at 8 and Sean at 6, had a copy that they could not wait for me to watch.

Frozen is about two sisters, orphaned princesses of a king and a queen who die in an accident. The eldest sister has powers to freeze anything but she almost kills her sister at play. The parents decide to keep her skill a secret, fearful that their subjects would find out

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinopypanda2031@aol.com.



about it, so they separate the sisters from playing together again.

When the eldest comes of age to assume the kingdom's throne vacated by their parents, she has to wear gloves so as not to reveal her powers. Fast forward to the end of the story over the numerous subplots. Life is not about hiding secrets to maintain a façade; it is about living the real, the authentic, and the true. The elder sister finally decides to let go of her fears and build herself an ice castle up in the mountain. She also had to unfreeze her lowland kingdom from the icy cold she unleashes earlier. The movie at the end burst into a song about "letting go," a practical enough advice to everyone who allows fear to dictate the cadence of their lives rather than just be the authentic but wondrously compassionate and powerful selves they already are.

The tradition that influenced my upbringing, particularly the European meta-brain of my schooling, conditioned me to think that the way to save someone is to liberate one from the grip of something imaginary and unreal, usually a dragon, an imaginary animal. In the Levant, the mirage is a constant illusion, an internally experienced object attractive and enticing but not real. In old Persia, they decided that reality consisted of two real opposing forces—the good and the bad—constantly battling for dominion to extend their influence. A group of nomads in the Levant decided that reality is one, the only reality, a message now echoed from muezzins on the minaret of many a mosque five times a day. The might and power of the real to Isaiah even uses earthly sovereigns to discipline its people, the chosen ones, to make clear in their social life the truth of that reality, lest they forgot.

Some forgot and a barefoot carpenter from Nazareth not only reminded them of this chosenness, but also showed everyone that the chosenness is a personal choice, with one's name indelibly marked and stamped on the messianic role to set other folks free, even unto death. The power and might was for the taking of anyone willing to take on the role, later self-consciously known as the *ekklesia* (the household of the real), to be innovative, creative, and free.

Lego. *Leg godt*. Let it go. Let the authentic practice of living ring true in life.

PB&J

Spam needs no introduction to *Saipan Tribune* readers, so here's some business news for you: Hormel, the company that makes Spam, now owns the Skippy peanut butter business as well. The deal was done in 2013.

The news, however, just hit my desk. I must be one of the top-ten Skippy peanut butter customers of all time, so they could have at least sent me a memo or something. Hormel's Skippy purchase was reportedly a \$700-million transaction, and that's a lot of coin, so maybe they got distracted and misrouted my memo. Well, I'm an understanding guy, so the deal has my blessings anyway, which I'm sure will be of great comfort to all concerned.

The peanut butter sandwich, a hallmark of American cuisine, deserves more praise than it gets.

Let's get practical about things. If you want the ultimate in a field-tested food, ask yourself this: Can I eat it in a helicopter cockpit? Not even the legendary C-ration can meet that benchmark. The peanut butter sandwich can, though. It's the true veteran of utilitarian foods.

Before we fly any further along this route, I'll note that the jelly (or a stand-in for jelly, as noted below) is usually implied in the term "peanut butter" sandwich. "PB&J," meanwhile, is an oft-used abbreviation that's not too difficult to decipher.

From my experience, PB&J sandwiches keep well without refrigeration, at least good enough to last for a workday. This isn't something I'd try with tuna, bologna, or anything at all with mayonnaise in it, especially in a warm climate.

Making a peanut butter sandwich is so easy that I can do it, and that's really saying something. Still, as forgiving as they are, they're not foolproof. Lousy ingredients will make for a lousy sandwich. So

to unlock the true potential of the PB&J sandwich, we need to build it on a firm foundation of good ingredients.

The common depiction of a PB&J sandwich is on white bread, but I'll contend that sourdough, rye, or pumpernickel make for a far better sandwich. I like to add a fancy touch by toasting the bread.

On a more esoteric note, not always easy for travel but fun for a gourmet flourish, bagels are good platforms for peanut butter and jelly. Pita bread can be a winner as well. Small sourdough rolls are really great for PB&J, especially when toasted.

So, as you can see, there are a lot of ways to win with peanut butter sandwiches.

On the loss side of the ledger, I never had any luck using crackers to make little nugget-sized PB&Js. Yeah, it sounds good in theory. But in reality it leaves a lot of crumbs, and the doggone crackers often fracture mid-bite, thus making an even bigger mess.

One way to get good jelly is to glom onto those little Christmas sampler gift packages that people send you when they don't know what else to send you. When kith and kin get these things they know to pass them to me for my inventory. Beyond that, I just buy the good stuff in small jars, since I don't want to look at the same giant jar of jam sitting in the fridge for the next six months.

Some folks dispense with the jelly entirely. One substitute is marshmallow spread. This sandwich is called a "fluffernutter," so known for a brand of spread known as Marshmallow Fluff. One advantage of the fluffernutter is that the marshmallow spread isn't as likely to ooze, drip, and stain the clothes as much as jelly is. At the table, that's not a big deal, but if you're not at the table, well, there you go.

Another jelly substitute, which can make a royal mess if too much

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the *Saipan Tribune*

Visit *Ed* at EdStephensJr.com. His column runs every Friday.



is used, is honey. Yet another substitute is sliced bananas. And yet another, other option is butter, though I'll confess this is one variation that I have failed to acquire a taste for.

As handy as they are to make and eat, some paradox of the food world has rendered peanut butter sandwiches all but invisible in the food service industry. You can get hamburgers, pizza, submarine sandwiches, or club sandwiches just about anywhere in the world, but the PB&J sandwich seems to remain the domain of home kitchens. Maybe there's some PB&J nirvana somewhere that I've yet to discover, where these sandwiches finally get their due.

Looking back at the business side of things, Skippy is the best-selling brand of peanut butter in China. So this gives Hormel an even bigger footing in the region. Might the Chinese someday acquire a taste for PB&J? I don't know what the odds are, but I guess it could happen.

But unless such a day arrives, peanut butter sandwiches seem relegated to being an under-appreciated part of American lore, one that has been spread through life for over 100 years.

Dark clouds of uncertainty!

We've paddled our canoe bravely into the fearfully dark clouds gathering storm in the horizon of uncertainty. Not surprised that we've met the only certainty in this dangerous journey—increases in the cost of living—while salaries remain the same for the last 20 years.

We pine for leadership for hopeful tidings. There's none but a vacuum. I'm equally aware that many have prayed clinging to divine providence to sift through the maze. Often we'd slip into despair when the thin strand of hope is dashed by helplessness from empty family pocketbooks.

We take a glimpse at what the future holds beyond the darkening clouds of far less opportunities, reined in by leadership's lapses and failure. You ponder why is it that the harder you work the less you make or your buying power sinks instantly into the quicksand of unexpected increases in most everything. Leadership is caught flatfooted!

Strength of your dollar

If you critically look at how much per dollar you take home, it's not more than 30 cents. That is basically your income amidst the only certainty we face today—the wildly unbearable combined cost of living—reaching as high as 65-80 percent.

You search for honest answers from the elected elite who can't answer your questions. How could they provide educated and decent answers when half the time they too are at a loss "what's at issue?" If they brave their usual grope with muddled answers, their first reaction is to leave you hanging alone. And these are the policymakers of the CNMI? When would we learn? Do we keep or kick the bums out?

Demoralizing as it may be, I'm still convinced that with a sense of spiritual humility and integrity the CNMI could free itself of the deepening and crippling effects of the vicious economic crisis.

Leadership has failed to improve the economy! It struggles to navigate its way through self-inflicted maze. This as it drools at the candy dangling before it or money for its re-election bid. But the lack of an agreed single agenda is scattered all over political strategy rooms.

Everybody's talking, nobody's listening. Confusion reigns! Efforts were made to fix the shortsighted casino law. But leadership hasn't been able to meet to trump its cards.

The governor refuses to see changes made to his casino law while some legislators want a more realistic version. Perhaps it's another lapse in leadership. If it means so much to the governor then why can't he extend the olive branch to the Legislature?

NMI's pile of debts

As the guys and gals try to figure out the front, back or side doors upstairs, there's earnest sentiment to be educated how a casino industry here would resolve the fiscal and financial crisis that is dwarfed by a huge pile of debts.

Must show numbers beyond conjecture and padded projections. Is it not true that the NMI has a cumulative deficit of at least \$1.2 billion, if not more? So could you show us realistic figures before I begin reading, "How to lie with statistics?"

Is casino fee the holy grail of salvation for the return of the 25 per-

cent cut illegally from retirees? I don't know if there's any chance that it will be released anytime soon. With the parade of lawsuits against the casino law, the timeline is tossed out the window where we won't see payment until next year.

Casino fees will disappear instantly. You do simple arithmetic and you'd see that it wouldn't resolve the persistently deepening fiscal and financial crises strangling city hall. Beyond the needs of retirees it simply fails to cover the needs of the majority, e.g., education, health, among others.

It looks like two years from now it's back to square one: Another 25-percent cut because casino fee is insufficient to cover the financial needs of the program. Isn't there an unfunded liability of some \$779 million discounting funds for the settlement agreement? So both the Fund and the industry are destined to fail.

It's very clear, though, that leadership has avoided including the participation of "we the people." Our focus now is to protect the future of our children. Screw the career of half-cocked politicians now morphing into historic dinosaurs.

Learning from the best

Having represented the NMI in regional and international organizations, I was privileged to learn from the best in both Asia and the Pacific how normal or contentious issues are discussed, resolved, and disposed. The term consensus resembles the island way of resolving approval or disapproval of community issues.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

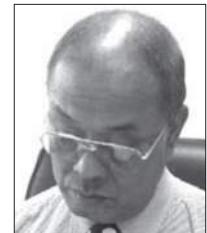
Life is not about memorizing a math problem

This is in response to Mr. Glenn D. Guerrero's letter to the editor in the *Saipan Tribune* on June 25. You missed two earlier letters where I alluded to the very points you brought up. Support at home is critical as we both agree. The breakdown in family values is open to debate. Some families' values include taking a 2X4 to an unruly kid. DYS reported 153 incidences of breakdown in family values in 2013. I think it is more of a disconnect between the old and the young with the old failing to keep up with technology and admitting their kids might be smarter than they are. The rich certainly don't have any problems because they bypass PSS, equip their kids with the latest and are generally more attuned to what's going on in today's world.

I still am 100 percent against awards for school children. I have lived in Micronesia and the Pacific for 55 years and in the early '60s, kids got along better because every kid was better at something than another one and they all recognized that uniqueness. Now they are all expected to be good at the same thing and the whole class is expected to get the same answer to the same question. Life is not about memorizing a math problem and forgetting it the next day. It's about being creative, excited, unique, passionate and compassionate. Twenty kids should be asked 20 different questions and the teacher should evaluate all 20 answers accordingly. If I am passionate about 500 hp Toyota pickups, I should be tested

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the *Saipan Tribune*

*John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the *Saipan Tribune* and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*



Time is allotted for all to express their views. It permits for healthy deliberative discussions why we agree or disagree or choose to agree to agree or agree to disagree. The wise man of the village guides the discussion. For the most part he keeps the discussion focused, eliminating ad hominem.

By the time the discussion ends, we pretty much have an inkling why our position holds water or otherwise. We peacefully submit to a decision by consensus to ensure harmony among islanders.

But this mode of community meetings has disappeared into the ash heap of history now boxed into the four walls of what's known as the Legislature. That the Legislature has failed perception of people's issues turn their public hearings into a venue of empty chairs where debate among legislators takes over public participation. Sad the loss of public trust and confidence to which there's no one else to blame except themselves.

on that subject, not be forced to write a report on Charles Dickens. I want kids to be able to find the answer to any question they have on YouTube, Google or FB. I want kids that can think. I want kids that can understand, and I don't mean an algebra problem, I mean real life problems.

Only 20 percent of CNMI kids go to college, and fewer graduate and I think we are shortchanging those 80 percent that are not engaged, bored, and tired of the BS they get at PSS. Cut out the redundancy and focus on what students want to learn, not force them to try and learn what we adults think they should. The same number of kids will do well on STEM as do now but a lot more will be ready for their place in life if we let them choose vocational, technical, or academic when they get out of middle school. I'm all for the AG's Cup, spelling bees, Math Court, and forensics and you will find that the same kids will participate under a student-friendly PSS as under the current adult-oriented PSS. I applaud you and in an ideal world and CNMI, parental involvement would be the norm but I talk to parents and kids every day and the facts just aren't here to support that position. The fact is, the more money a family has, the better their kids do in school. Period.

Gary DuBrall
Chalan Piao, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Light and variable winds.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Light and variable winds.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 88° ▼ 79°	▲ 88° ▼ 79°	▲ 88° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 86 ▼ 78
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲ 82 ▼ 79
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲ 82 ▼ 80
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲ 83 ▼ 79
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	▲ 83 ▼ 80
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	▲ 83 ▼ 80
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲ 82 ▼ 79

Around The Globe

Auckland	Windy	▲ 60 ▼ 54
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲ 97 ▼ 69
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲ 86 ▼ 80
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲ 85 ▼ 73
London	Thundershowers	▲ 67 ▼ 53
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲ 82 ▼ 63
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲ 87 ▼ 77
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲ 54 ▼ 46
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲ 87 ▼ 77
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲ 78 ▼ 66
Osaka	Showers	▲ 82 ▼ 69
Paris	Showers	▲ 68 ▼ 56
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲ 76 ▼ 68
Rome	Sunny	▲ 82 ▼ 65
Salem	Showers	▲ 68 ▼ 56
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 61 ▼ 53
Seoul	Thunderstorms	▲ 78 ▼ 64
Tokyo	Showers	▲ 77 ▼ 68
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲ 88 ▼ 69

Tides

Sunrise/Sunset			Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	5:49 AM	6:51 PM	Today	5:33 AM	6:41 PM
Saturday	5:49 AM	6:51 PM	Saturday	6:23 AM	7:27 PM
Sunday	5:50 AM	6:51 PM	Sunday	7:13 AM	8:11 PM
Monday	5:50 AM	6:51 PM	Monday	8:01 AM	8:53 PM
Tuesday	5:50 AM	6:51 PM	Tuesday	8:49 AM	9:33 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

■ ISLAND SNAPSHTOS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.

■ BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

■ BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.

■ SAMUT SARAI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.

■ TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 18, 2014

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:30pm	4:10pm	6, 7 via Rota
UA5078	3:20pm	4:10pm	1, 5
UA5038	3:20pm	4:10pm	2, 4
UA5078	7:05pm	7:55pm	1, 5
UA5040	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:50pm	11:40pm	1, 5

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	1:10pm	2:00pm	6, 7
UA5038	1:10pm	2:50pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5077	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 5
UA5041	5:45pm	6:35pm	1, 5
UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5043	9:30pm	10:20pm	1, 5

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA5039	2:30pm	3:05pm	6, 7
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GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5038	1:10pm	1:45pm	2, 4
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ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5039	3:35pm	4:10pm	6, 7
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ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA5038	2:15pm	2:50pm	2, 4
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SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)

DL287	6:05am	11:15pm	2, 6 via NRT
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PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN

DL298	4:30am	3:00pm	3, 7 via NRT
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SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:35am	1, 4, 5, 6
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily

Dear people of the CNMI

My name is Pius Helgen, a retiree since 2009. I worked 31 years for the Commonwealth Ports Authority and have retired as CPA's Ports Security chief. Nobody can say that I did not earn my keep as I worked hard day and night for CPA and have earned my retirement.

Many of us have heard loud opposition and writers addressing issues against casino and electronic games. Most, if not all, have offered nothing to replace what has been incorporated into the laws that created the casino and electronic gaming—specifically the funding mechanism that would supplement, return the 25-percent benefit cut, and most importantly sustain what the general fund have failed to do for the Northern Marianas retirement and retirees. Some writers offer ideas that are unrealistic and unsustainable.

There are known anti-casino groups and individuals out there campaigning and rallying by circulating faulty and questionable petitions against casino and electronic gaming. Billboards have lit-

What's your solution?

Dear people of the Commonwealth: By nature, I am what you would refer to as the quiet type and stick to my family matters. I am a retiree since 1999 and I have worked for our Commonwealth government at the Department of Finance, Finance Section for 20 years. Like most retired people, I am proud to say that I earned my living and benefits fair and square.

My purpose in writing this letter is because, you see, I have worked for 20 years and have been retired for 14 years and now displaced by our government for its failure to deliver the constitutional mandate of paying my retirement benefit in full—not be shorted 25 percent in cuts to my retirement benefits. As a responsible parent, I am now forced to find a job to supplement by retirement cut.

Now that the Legislature passed the casino, EGM, and VLT laws, which the government have signed into laws and for the first time our government has shown some concrete plans to address the retirement dilemma, we have outsiders and our own local people jumping and making a raucous by passing anti-casino and anti-electronic gaming petitions around. Let me ask bluntly, what do you offer in return? What is your proposed concrete solution?

We have a failing CUC, CHC, and the Retirement Fund, all competing for the limited resources that this government proposes to operate with. Do you know that both the Public School System and Northern Marianas College are protected by the Constitution too for their funding allocation?

I humbly ask these people circulating anti-casino and anti-electronic gaming petitions, and those putting all those billboards that litter our streets, to propose constructive solutions rather than stopping these laws.

Times have changed and the old sentiments are different back then and now. Those saying the phrase to respect the voice of the people are using it for selfish reasons as my family and I do not prescribe to their action and I really do not want less than a majority of the population making statements that reflects the will of the people.

Maggie S. Mendiola
Chalan Kiya, Saipan

tered our streets but have offered no solutions for our mess. I am not sure and frankly am appalled as to why and for what reasons Rota Resort & Country Club and Rota Water, and owner of these companies, Mr. Su Hu Cho, and managers Mr. Ed Cho and Mr. Sun, Ambrose Bennett, and Leila Staffler are all trying so hard to outlaw casino and electronic gaming. These laws were enacted by law, by a wide majority of our legislative body that is empowered by the CNMI Constitution. These laws were signed by our governor, who is also empowered by the CNMI Constitution. Do foreign-owned interests have the power to usurp our CNMI Constitution?

The Election Commission and Attorney General's Office should monitor where all these groups and individuals are getting their

My para-dice island?

If a casino industry is the answer, then how come investors don't partner and invest in the Tinian Dynasty? Expand it to an integrated resort. The Tinian Dynasty has been around for years. Did it help the people there? The retirees? Give 100 percent local employment? What more if a casino is built here on Saipan? No tourist will take another trip to go south. Have you ever wondered how can a casino license be granted if the Casino Commission appointees have yet to be confirmed?

Our government officials have already hinted that Best Sunshine will be awarded the exclusive license. Has it ever occurred to you that just maybe, if all falls apart, these two casino investors may pack up their bags and sue us in the end? Another Betty Johnson episode, don't you think? Shoot, I think that is where the escrow money will end up going to. Right now, I really don't care if one is built on island because I have a conscience that tells me it is pure evil. They may throw money in your face but the question is, for how long?

Did anyone get any richer when the garment industry was at its peak? Yes, but it wasn't me. I think it's time for the peanut butter and shoe factory to come in. What we need is a megamall in the heart of Saipan so that tourists and locals alike of all ages could enjoy. Because with that, I don't mind leaving the place broke as my children were all smiles. Can you get the same feeling leaving a casino?

Vince G. Cabrera
Chalan Piao, Saipan

GLOBAL

From Page 10

The top recipient nations of today's refugees include Iran, Jordan, Lebanon, Pakistan and Turkey, none of them notably wealthy. The United Nations asked for \$16.9 billion in help last year. So far it has received from donors only 30 percent of its request.

The problem has many facets. The impact on the lives of the displaced is the chief problem. The limits to host and donor nations' generosity to refugees and to the

assistance given internally displaced persons in war-torn countries are formidable barriers.

The root of the problem, of course, is the proliferation of internal conflicts across the world in recent years. People, especially leaders, in these countries who would like to fight each other for political power need to think long and hard about the impact of their violence on the 25 million children who are forced from their homes by such conflicts. It is, after all, the children who suffer most.

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funding support to underwrite the cost of their activities. I recognize that freedom of speech is a basic freedom and right of democracy, but my mention of this questionable petition is based on our smart AG's office who, in last week's news reports, wrote to the proponent of the public initiative group circulating their petition advising that their petition is faulty. Is it really the role of the AG to be advising or to be reviewing such petitions? We can probably say one thing about the AG and that he is part of the casino opposition. It certainly makes the governor appear to be unable to make up his mind on the case of the right hand not knowing what the left hand is doing. He holds out the promise to the retirees of a secure future but his attorney general is advising the anti-electronic gaming and anti-casino folks on how to write an acceptable petition?

I am just a simple man fighting for my constitutional rights to my promised retirement and for my family to live humbly and peacefully. I have not done any harm to any of these people or spoken evil about them.

I ask Rota Resort & Country Club and Rota Water, and owner of these companies, Mr. Su Ho Cho, and managers Mr. Ed Cho and Mr. Sun, Ambrose Bennett, and Leila Staffler or anyone else for that matter, to return the 25-percent cut to my retirement pay and offer sustainable solutions that will benefit the Commonwealth people. Let's stop lying and misleading the people.

Pius Helgen
As Lito, Saipan

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6:00 - 9:00PM

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CUC: \$32.7M aged accounts receivable from customers

Many customers of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. owe the agency a substantial amount that, if collected, could help augment CUC's day-to-day operations.

Chief financial officer Charles Warren disclosed that, as of May 31, 2014, the total unpaid obligation incurred by delinquent customers in all classes has reached \$32.718 million.

CUC records show that of the \$32.718 million in receivables, 72 percent is due from its three biggest customers: the Public School System, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., and the central government. The remaining 28 percent is due from residential, commercial, and autonomous agencies.

Warren confirmed that PSS, CHCC, and the central government have a combined debt of

\$23.588 million as of May 31 this year. The central government has arrears of \$3.755 million; PSS owes \$7.312 million; and CHCC has \$12.521 million.

These arrears represent many years of unpaid power, water, and sewer obligations.

During last week's board meeting, CUC board chair David J. Sablan disclosed that negotiations are ongoing with the public schools and the central government, while litigation is ongoing with the public hospital.

Meantime, the accounts receivables aging from all other customers totaled \$9.130 million as of last month.

Residential users' unpaid obligation for their power, water, and sewer consumption amounts to \$2.987 million to date. Of this figure, \$1.7 million is aged 30 days; \$194,593 is past 30-59 days;

\$111,403 is past 60-89 days; \$38,487 is aged 90-119 days; and \$845,088 is aged 120 days.

For commercial users, aging receivables totaled \$4.092 million, of which \$3.2 million is

past 30 days; \$79,671 is aged 30-59 days; \$178,911 is past 60-89 days; \$64,341 is past 90-119 days; and \$495,699 is aged 120 days.

CUC's receivables from au-

tonomous agencies reached \$2.049 million as of May 31, 2014. Of this amount, \$522,004 is aged 30 days; \$120,859 is past 30-59 days; \$111,508 is past 60-89 days; \$139,268 is aged 90-

119 days; and \$1.155 million is past 120 days.

CUC is a nonprofit organization that relies heavily on the revenue it collects from ratepayers. (Moneth G. Deposa)

Guam credit union to pay \$75,000 to resolve sexual harassment suit

HONOLULU, Hawaii—

Maite, Guam-based Coast 360 Federal Credit Union will pay \$75,000 and furnish other relief to settle a sexual harassment case with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the agency announced yesterday. The credit union also agreed to implement measures to prevent future incidents of harassment.

In February 2012, a male employee filed a charge with the EEOC alleging that he was

sexually harassed by a member of the credit union in 2011, including gestures of a sexual nature. The EEOC ultimately found reasonable cause that the credit union violated Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 for the sexual harassment to which the victim was subjected.

Without admitting liability, Coast 360 Federal Credit Union agreed to enter into a conciliation agreement with the EEOC and the alleged victim, thereby avoiding litigation. Aside from

the monetary relief, the credit union agreed to hire a consultant or attorney to provide all employees with live training on how to address and prevent sex discrimination, sexual harassment and retaliation in the workplace. The credit union also agreed to appoint an internal equal employment opportunity officer to review and revise the credit union's anti-harassment policy and complaint procedures as needed. The EEOC will monitor compliance with the agreement.

"Federal law prohibits sexual harassment in the workplace, and employers have the responsibility to protect their staff from such misconduct,"

High court affirms conviction but sends sentence back to trial court

The Commonwealth Supreme Court affirmed Fu Zhu Lin's conviction for illegal possession of a controlled substance, but vacated the sentence and returned the case to the Superior Court for resentencing.

The case started when police stopped Lin at a DUI checkpoint because Lin's moped did not have current license plate registration stickers. Following the stop, police arrested Lin for not having a driver's license. As part of the arrest, police searched Lin. The search uncovered a small amount of methamphetamine. Lin was subsequently convicted, denied a presentence investigation and report, or PSI, and sentenced to the maximum penalty.

On appeal, Lin challenged the stop, the search, and the sentence. Lin claimed the stop was improper because expired registration stickers did not give police reasonable suspicion that Lin violated a law. The high

court disagreed because expired registration stickers created a reasonable suspicion that the car's registry was expired, which is a misdemeanor.

Next, Lin claimed the search was improper because the original arrest did not give police authority to take Lin into custody. The high court disagreed because the Commonwealth Code permits police to arrest someone who commits certain traffic violations and lacks appropriate ID.

Finally, Lin claimed the trial court improperly denied Lin a PSI. The Supreme Court agreed because trial courts must provide an adequate explanation before declining to order a PSI. Therefore, Lin was entitled to resentencing following the completion of a PSI.

The Supreme Court's full opinion is *Commonwealth v. Fu Zhu Lin*, 2014 MP 6, and can be found at <http://www.cnmlaw.org/supreme14.html>. (NMI Judiciary)

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



Happiest birthday to an amazing mother, Antonia Manibusan! Thank you for everything you do to make all of us happy. We wish you many more blessings and good health for the coming years. We love forever! Also, happy 6th birthday to our diva, Wil-Leina Antonette Cabrera. God has blessed us with such a unique daughter/sister. No matter how old you get you will always be our baby girl. We love you forever! Greetings come from Mommy, Daddy, Tun, and your sisters. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**



Happy 85th birthday to our loving father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and great-great-grandfather, Jesus Aguon Sablan "Tun Jesus Nia"! May the Lord shower and bless you with many more birthdays and good health to come and may your day be extra special with many hugs and kisses coming your way. *En guaiya hao Tang/Tata*. With love from your Sablan family. Special greetings from Izaiah Blaze. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**

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NMC Foundation Golf Tournament tomorrow

J.C. Tenorio Enterprises, Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino, McDonald's Saipan, and Laolao Bay Golf and Resort have signed up to become major sponsors of tomorrow's 11th NMC Foundation Open Golf Tournament.

The tournament is part of the foundation's efforts to help advance postsecondary education in the CNMI and will be held tomorrow, Saturday, June 28, 2014, at the west course of the Laolao Bay Golf and Resort. The event will feature cash and other prizes that have been generously donated by various companies and organizations.

The NMC Foundation is composed of community volunteers committed to elevating higher education opportunities for CNMI students. Proceeds from the tournament and cash donations will directly benefit NMC's educational programs and services.

"On behalf of the NMC Foundation, I would like to thank all past supporters for their investment in our community. I call upon the same supporters as well as other members of this great community to contribute to our one and only community college in helping students

achieve their goal of obtaining a degree in higher education," said NMC Foundation president Joe Santos. "All proceeds will go to the NMC Foundation, which is charged with the mission of supporting our great community college."

Other sponsors of the tournament include 360 Restaurant, Auntie Mag's Catering, Booya's BBQ, CHL Program, Bridge Capital LLC, Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan, Gree Air Conditioning, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Island Apparel, Kanoa Resort, Kautz Glass Co., KKMP Radio, Marianas Pacific Distributors, Marianas Variety, NMC Bookstore, National Office Supply, Pacific Subsea, PIC Saipan, Power 99, Rota Germanium Water, The Athlete's Foot/All Star, Tan Siu Lin Foundation, Town House Inc., and Tournament of Champions.

The entrance fee for the tournament is only \$95 per player, which can be paid at Saipan Laolao Bay Golf and Resort. Registration for the tournament can also be paid at Triple J Motors or the NMC Cashier's Office.

The tournament will be a top 5 Double Peoria. The first place winner will receive a \$300 cash prize, second place receives

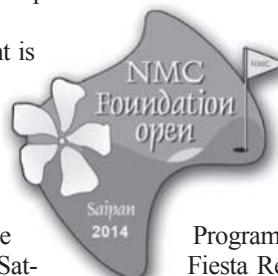
\$200 cash, third place \$100 cash, fourth and fifth place will receive a consolation prize.

The NMC Foundation is also

asking companies or individuals who can contribute Education Tax Credit, monetary, or in-kind donations to sponsor the

tournament. Those interested in taking the opportunity to sponsor the event or who are interested in registering to play can

contact the Northern Marianas College at 234-5498 Ext. 6780 or email richard.villagomez@marianas.edu. (NMC)



SUMMER PROJECT

Science students pose for a photo together with their Northern Marianas College and Public School System mentors and representatives for the National Institutes of Health. They will be working on projects this summer as part of the Short-Term Research Experience for Underrepresented Persons, or STEP-UP, program. The STEP-UP program provides research education grants to seven Pacific institutions to coordinate 12 weeks of summer research experience and training opportunities.

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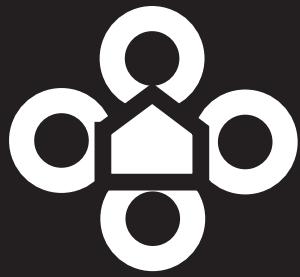


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500 students attend NMC's Cash for College

Approximately 500 students attended NMC's Cash for College Workshop last Saturday, June 21, 2014, to receive assistance in finding funds to pay for college. This is the highest number of students that have participated in the biannual Cash for College workshop, which was introduced several years ago.

At the workshop, the students received personal, step-by-step assistance in completing college financial aid forms for various federal and local scholarships and grants including the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, the Saipan Higher Education Financial Aid, the CNMI Scholarship, and the College Access Challenge Grant Scholarship.

In addition, staff members

from the college's Office of Admissions and Records were present to provide information and assistance with the NMC application process.

The workshop participants also received free notary and copying services, as well as fee waivers for the NMC admission application fee and placement tests for the upcoming fall 2014 semester.

The participants included recent graduates from Marianas High School, Kagman High School, Saipan Southern High School, and other private high schools. Some of the participants also included parents of students and students currently enrolled at NMC.

Roman Tudela, who is a continuing NMC student said, "Every time I hear about the



NMC

The Northern Marianas College saw the highest number of participants since 2009 with approximately 500 students attending the workshop. Participants of the event received assistance in filling financial aid forms for the federal financial aid program, the CNMI Scholarship, SHEFA, and other programs.

Cash for College workshop I mark my calendar, put a reminder on my phone. I don't want to miss such a great event that makes it easier for me to continue at NMC."

"We are very pleased that more and more students are taking advantage of Cash for College" said NMC dean of

Services Leo Pangilinan. "It was rewarding to see many students maximize financial aid opportunities that will help them with their educational journey."

Students who missed the recent Cash for College workshop can visit NMC's Financial Aid Office in Room N-1 at the As Terlaje campus (Monday to

Friday, from 8am to 4:30pm) or contact the office at (670) 237-6792 to get assistance with filling out forms.

The free Cash for College workshop was made possible through financial support from the U.S. Department of Education's College Access Challenge Grant program. (NMC)

UOG SHRM named 'Outstanding Student Chapter'

The Society for Human Resources Management has nationally recognized the University of Guam SHRM Student Chapter as an "Outstanding Student Chapter," a distinction that is the highest honor given to student chapters. This is the second time the UOG SHRM Student Chapter has received this distinction.

**» UOG Society for
Human Resources
Management
Student Chapter
also receives
Superior Merit
Award**

In addition, for the 16th year out of its 17 years of existence, the UOG SHRM Student Chapter has also received the Superior Merit Award, which nationally recognizes the UOG SHRM Student Chapter for its outstanding activities and projects in 2013-2014.

"I am beyond proud of our UOG Student Chapter," said Dr. Richard Colfax, faculty advisor. "Their hard work, dedication, activities and collaboration have earned them this recognition from SHRM. I am honored to be the advisor for this team of students which exemplifies UOG's excellence."

The UOG SHRM Student Chapter received the awards at the SHRM Annual Student Conference and the SHRM Annual Conference and Exposition in Orlando in June. Attending

the conferences were Johertz Marfega (treasurer), Miyuki Kim (treasurer-elect), Resty Albeza (member), Daphne May Leon Guerrero (member) and Colfax (adviser).

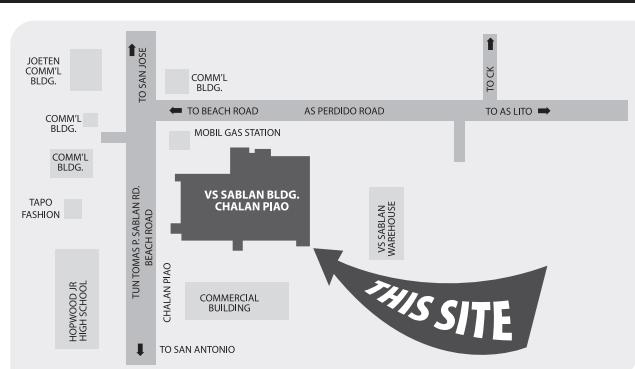
The SHRM conferences are the largest for human re-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Students from the University of Guam's Society for Human Resources Management attending the SHRM Annual Student Conference and the SHRM Annual Conference and Exposition in Orlando are (from left to right): Resty Albeza (member), Johertz Marfega (treasurer), Dr. Richard Colfax (advisor), Daphne May Leon Guerrero (member), and Miyuki Kim (treasurer-elect).

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Contact Tony Muna (Cell No. 888-9290 Email Address: plebechamp80@gmail.com) or Ben Sablan (Cell No. 898-7500 Email Address: ben.sablan1994@gmail.com) or Call 234-2585/235-9020.

Island Snapshots



HAPPY DAY!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Parents George and Majyn Binghit pose with their sons Xander, left, and John Paul during the celebration of Xander's first birthday and Christening held at JC Cafe on June 25, 2014.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Parents JP and Estefanie Garcia have their picture taken with their children, Keziah and John Stephen, during John Stephen's first birthday and Christening held at JC Cafe on June 25, 2014.



Alfred and Nancy Manlulu celebrate their daughter Bianca's Christening at JC Café on Tinian on June 15, 2014. It also coincided with the couple's first wedding anniversary.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



STEM IN ACTION

It was the last week of school for Saipan Community School but students were still going strong with instruction and fun. On Wednesday, May 21, 2014, following a morning of Field Day, the sixth and seventh graders at SCS listened to an interesting presentation from Division of Fish and Wildlife Supervisor of Fisheries Research Section, Todd Miller. He spoke to the classes about fish tagging practices in the CNMI region and shared interesting facts about characteristics of fish. Miller's visit followed a unit of study about the coral reef led by Cindy Warren, Science and Math teacher at SCS. Having Miller visit SCS brought science in the CNMI culture to life and allowed the students at SCS to visit with a real person that uses his science background each day in a career he loves.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Department of Community and Cultural Affairs
Office of the Secretary



Caller Box 10007, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950 Tel. (670) 664-2576 Fax (670) 664-2570

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT For Tinian and Rota Residents

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP)

Assessment on active clients who are terminally ill or with special needs and new enrollment

CHILD CARE and DEVELOPMENT FUND (CCDF) PROGRAM New Applicants

To: All parents and/or Legal Guardians:

The Department of Community and Cultural Affairs will be doing pre-eligibility assessments in Tinian and Rota only for LIHEAP and CCDF PROGRAMS.

Pre-eligibility assessments will be done at the following locations, date, and time:

LIHEAP

Location	Date	Time	Submission Dates and Time	Final Date to Submit Application
Tinian Office on Aging Center	July 2 & 3, 2014	10:30a.m. to 5:00p.m.	See LIHEAP Staff on site	See LIHEAP Staff on site
Rota Office on Aging Center	July 14, 2014	9:00a.m. to 3:00p.m.	See LIHEAP Staff on site	See LIHEAP Staff on site
Rota C and CA	July 15, 2014	9:00a.m. to 12:00p.m.	See LIHEAP Staff on site	See LIHEAP Staff on site

Requirements:

* for clients who are terminally ill or with special needs, must provide physician note
* for new enrollment (applicants):

- updated police clearance
- copy of Birth Certificate or valid Passport
- 3 latest check stubs
- Source of income
- Copy of Social Security Card
- Copy of latest CUC billing

For questions regarding the LIHEAP please call 664-2568 or 664-2578

CCDF

Location	Date	Time	Submission Dates and Time	Final Date to Submit Application
Tinian Youth Center	July 2, 2014	10:30a.m. to 3:30p.m.	See CCDF Staff on site	See CCDF Staff on site
Rota C and CA Office	July 14, 2014	9:00a.m. to 3:00p.m.	See CCDF Staff on site	See CCDF Staff on site

Parents and/or legal guardians who are interested in applying for the program must go through the pre-eligibility process and will need to bring the following:

- A. For Full Time Students or in Training with Zero Income:
 - School Documents such as acceptance letter and/or class schedule
 - Must be enrolled full time (12 credits)
 - If attending ABE must provide letter from ABE Office indicating that the student is considered full time
 - In Training: must have documents indicating a minimum of 40 training hours bi-weekly
- B. For Full Time students with income:
 - All requirements under letter A plus
 - Three (3) latest check stubs showing: Applicant's full name, hours worked (a minimum of 60 hours bi-weekly), hourly rate, and gross monthly earnings for both parents
 - Most recent 1040 Tax for the year 2013 for both parents
- C. For working parents:
 - Three (3) latest check stubs showing: Applicant's full name, hours worked (a minimum of 60 hours bi-weekly), hourly rate, and gross monthly earnings for both parents
 - Most recent 1040 Tax for the year 2013 for both parents

Interested applicants must bring the above documents to be entertained for pre-eligibility.

Completed applications along with the required documents should be forwarded to the Child Care Program Office Building No. 1347 Ascension Court Capitol Hill. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

For questions regarding the Child Care Program please call at 664-2575/664-2589/664-2576.

Full Requirements

Applicant of Household:

1. Three (3) latest check stubs each parent or legal guardian (if legal guardian, must provide copy of Court Documents)

a. Applicant's Full Name

b. Hours worked (minimum of 60 hours bi-weekly)

c. Hourly Rate

d. Gross Monthly Earnings

2. A copy of Identification Card for each parent or guardian

a. Passport

b. CNMI Driver's License

c. Mayor's ID

d. CW 1, Employment Authorization Document (EAD), Notice of Completed Biometrics (if applicable)

3. A copy of your most recent 1040 Tax for the year 2013 (each parent or guardian)

4. Residency: Provide one of the following:

a. House Rental/ Mortgage

b. Utility Receipt

c. Telephone Receipt

d. CW 1, EAD, Notice of Completed Biometrics (if applicable)

5. Employment verification (CCDF prescribed form)

6. Training/Education Verification

a. Letter of Acceptance from Institution

b. Full time student

i. Twelve (12) Credit Units

ii. Letter from ABE indicating full time status

7. Notarized Affidavit indicating (CCDF Form)

a. Parent is single

b. Child Support Statement

8. Status: CW1, EAD, Notice of Completed Biometrics documentation (if applicable)

Child/Children Household member:

1. A copy of Birth Certificate for each child (Child must be a US citizen or a qualified alien, as defined in Personal Responsibility Work Opportunity Act (PRWORA))

2. A copy of US Passport

3. A copy of Social Security Card

CNMI Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Program

Income Eligibility

Family Size	Income Level	Family Size	Income Level
1	\$958.00	5	\$2298.00
2	\$1293.00	6	\$2633.00
3	\$1628.00	7	\$2968.00
4	\$1963.00	8	\$3303.00

For families with more than 8 persons, add \$335.00 to each additional family member

Approved for distribution: /s/Laura T. Ogomoro
DCCA Secretary

Funding from the Office of Child Care, US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families

Business

Court sides with employees in retirement fund case



This April 29, 2014 file photo shows a Supreme Court visitor using his cellphone to take a photo of the court in Washington.

COMMONWEALTH LOTTERY COMMISSION PUBLIC NOTICE

A meeting of the Commonwealth Lottery Commission will be held at 2 p.m. on Monday June 30, 2014 in the Governor's Conference Room 1st Floor Juan Sablan Memorial Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan. The following is the proposed agenda

- I. Meeting Called to Order
- II. Public Comment
- III. Adoption of Agenda
- IV. Executive Session
- V. Return to Public Session
- VI. Adjournment

For further information, please contact the Lottery Commission at **664-2375**.

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Supreme Court on Wednesday sided with bank employees in a lawsuit against Fifth Third Bancorp that accused management of irresponsibly investing employee retirement money in the bank's then-failing stock.

The unanimous ruling came in a case involving a retirement fund invested primarily in the bank's stock.

The court considered whether those in charge of investing in the fund have the freedom or the duty to direct investment money elsewhere when they have reason to believe the stock price is inflated.

The employees said manage-

ment knew that borrowers increasingly were defaulting on risky, subprime loans, but concealed that information or misled investors.

The bank continued to invest in the stock-ownership fund even when the problems came to light and the share price plummeted.

The suit asserted that those actions violated management's duty to take good care of the employees' retirement money.

The 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals allowed the case to proceed. The justices ordered the appeals court to re-examine the case in light of Wednesday's ruling,

although they agreed with the appellate judges that the actions of bank management do not merit special protection when dealing with a bank-stock fund.

The name of the company stems from the union of two banks, the Third National Bank and the Fifth National Bank.

The case is Fifth Third Bancorp v. Dudenhoeffer, 12-751.

Ruling could help US become major oil exporter

NEW YORK (AP)—Companies are taking advantage of new ways to export oil from the U.S. despite government restrictions, and in the process helping the U.S. become an ever bigger exporter of petroleum on the world stage.

The Obama Administration has opened the door to more exports—without changing policy—by allowing some light oils to be defined as petroleum products like gasoline or diesel, which are not subject to export restrictions.

Although U.S. production has boomed in recent years, the nation still consumes far more crude oil than it produces and remains heavily dependent on imports. But the crude being produced by U.S. drillers in recent years includes types of oils that don't have a big market here. This has the oil industry and some politicians calling for an end to crude export restrictions, which were adopted after the 1973 Arab oil embargo.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Chicago lawyer gets 15 years in big tax fraud case

NEW YORK (AP)—A Chicago-area lawyer and accountant labeled by the government as history's most prolific and unrepentant tax cheat was sentenced Wednesday to 15 years in prison, and the judge bemoaned the "incredible greed" of some of America's wealthiest people for taking advantage of the tax shelters he peddled. The lawyer, Paul M. Daugerdas, 63, was ordered to pay nearly a half-billion dollars in restitution and forfeit \$164 million in cash and property, including a lakefront Wisconsin home, after he was convicted at trial last year of conspiracy, tax evasion and mail fraud. He must report to prison Sept. 18. Daugerdas, of Wilmette, Illinois, did not speak at sentencing. Outside court, he said he was "profoundly disappointed" and it was a "sad day" for the criminal justice system.

Justices rule for broadcasters in fight with Aereo

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Supreme Court ruled Wednesday that a startup Internet company has to pay broadcasters when it takes television programs from the airwaves and allows subscribers to watch them on smartphones and other portable devices. The justices said by a 6-3 vote that Aereo Inc. is violating the broadcasters' copyrights by taking the signals for free. The ruling preserves the ability of the television networks to collect huge fees from cable and satellite systems that transmit their programming. Had services such as Aereo been allowed to operate without paying for the programming, more people might have ditched their cable services, meaning broadcasters would have been able to charge less for the right to transmit their programs.

Notice Of Zoning Board Meeting

The regular meeting of the Zoning Board will be held on Thursday, July 10th, 2014 at 5:00 PM, Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten DanDan Commercial Bldg., Saipan (Tel: 234-9661 • Fax: 234-9666 • e-mail: www.zoning.gov.mp)

A. Preliminary Matters

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Roll Call
- 3. Adoption of Agenda
- 4. Adoption of June 5th, 2014 minutes
- 5. Public Comments (*not related to files for discussion under item B. Public Hearings*)

B. Public Hearings

- 1. Conditional Use Application #2014-1578: Big Boy Marine Sports, Inc. is proposing to operate vehicle repairs and maintenance, with paint and auto body works, on lot 409-1-R-1. This use is classified as "Vehicle Repair, General" and is permitted in this district as a Conditional Use. This area is located south of Chalan Mnsgn Guerrero at the former Jenmarz location. It is zoned as Mixed Commercial.
- 2. Conditional Use Application #2014-2264: Saipan Zip Lines, LLC is proposing to operate a zip-line amusement activity designed to enable users propelled by gravity to travel from the top to bottom of inclined cables. This use is classified as Amusement, Outdoor and will be located on lots 052 A 05, 058 A 09 & 10, 006 A 01, 064 A 01, and TR 4-2 in Marpi. These areas are zoned as Rural, Public Resource, and Tourist Resort.

C. Communications/ Reports

D. Old Business. None

E. New Business

- 1. Office operations report

F. Executive (Closed) Session.

G. Miscellaneous: Other Matters, Announcements, Next Meeting, Adjourn.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Administrator, Therese T. Ogunmoro, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING for Big Boy Marine Sports, Inc.

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Big Boy Marine Sports, Inc. is proposing to operate vehicle repairs and maintenance, with paint and auto body works, on lot 409-1-R-1. This use is classified as "Vehicle Repair, General" and is permitted in this district as a Conditional Use. This area is located south of Chalan Mnsgn Guerrero at the former Jenmarz location. It is zoned as Mixed Commercial.

Date: July 10th, 2014, Thursday

Time: 5:00 pm

**Place: Zoning Board Conference Room,
2nd flr, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan**

The above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the project may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments shall be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan no later than 4:30pm, July 9th, 2014. Written comments may also be submitted via email to therese.ogunmoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Saipan Zoning Law of 2013).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING for Saipan Zip Lines, LLC

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Saipan Zip Lines, LLC is proposing to operate a zip-line amusement activity designed to enable users propelled by gravity to travel from the top to bottom of inclined cables. This use is classified as Amusement, Outdoor and will be located on lots 058 A 10, 006 A 01, 064 A 01, and TR 4-2 in Marpi. These areas are zoned as Rural, Public Resource, and Tourist Resort.

Date: July 10th, 2014, Thursday

Time: 5:00 pm

**Place: Zoning Board Conference Room,
2nd flr, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan**

The above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the project may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments shall be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan no later than 4:30pm, July 9th, 2014. Written comments may also be submitted via email to therese.ogunmoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Saipan Zoning Law of 2013).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

Nation

Oklahoma residents seek answers on quakes

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—Oklahoma residents whose homes and nerves have been shaken by an upsurge in earthquakes want to know what's causing the temblors—and what can be done to stop them.

Hundreds of people are expected to turn out in Edmond, Oklahoma, on Thursday night for a town hall meeting on the issue.

Earthquakes used to be almost unheard of on the vast stretches of prairie that unfold

across Texas, Kansas and Oklahoma, but they've become common in recent years.

Oklahoma recorded nearly 150 between January and the start of May. Though most have been too weak to cause serious damage or endanger lives, they've raised suspicions that the shaking might be connected to the oil and gas drilling method known as hydraulic fracturing, especially the wells in which the industry disposes

of its wastewater.

Now after years of being harangued by anxious residents, governments in all three states are confronting the issue, reviewing scientific data, holding public discussions and considering new regulations. Thursday's meeting in Oklahoma will include the state agency that regulates oil and gas drilling and the Oklahoma Geological Survey.

States with historically few

earthquakes are trying to reconcile the scientific data with the interests of their citizens and the oil and gas industry.

"This is all about managing risks," said Oklahoma Corporation Commission spokesman Matt Skinner. "It's a little more complicated than that because, of course, we're managing perceived risks. There's been no definitive answers, but we're not waiting for one. We have to go with what the data suggests."

Regulators from each state met for the first time in March in Oklahoma City to exchange information on the quakes and discuss toughening standards on the lightly regulated business of fracking wastewater disposal.

In Texas, residents from Azle, a town northwest of Fort Worth that has endured hun-



Barbara Brown poses for a photo on the front step of her home that now sits about one foot off the surface of her lawn, Saturday, June 21, 2014, in Reno, Texas. AP

Ruling pushes gay marriage closer to Supreme Court

DENVER (AP)—The first ruling by a federal appeals court that states cannot prevent gay couples from marrying makes it more likely the Supreme Court will ultimately have to make a decision it has so far avoided—do states have the ability to prohibit same-sex marriage?

The court danced around that question precisely one year ago when it issued a pair of rulings on gay marriage. At the time, Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Stephen Breyer warned about the high court trying to enforce societal changes through judicial fiat, with Gins-

berg citing the lingering abortion rights battle ever since the court legalized the practice in Roe v. Wade.

The high court's caution was evident in its rulings: It upheld a decision striking down California's gay marriage ban but relied on technicalities rather than finding a national right for same sex couples to marry. Then it struck down parts of the federal Defense of Marriage Act, finding same-sex marriages from states where the practice was legal must be recognized.

That decision triggered an avalanche of 17 straight court

decisions upholding the rights of gays to marry, including Wednesday's 2-1 ruling from the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver, the highest court to weigh in since the Supreme Court. Utah, whose gay marriage ban was struck down in the decision, is considering an appeal to the Supreme Court.

"This tees it up for possible Supreme Court review," said William Eskridge, a law professor at Yale University. "When a federal appeals court strikes down a major state law, there is a lot more pressure for the justices to take that."

State leaders want feds to stop child immigration

NOGALES, Ariz. (AP)—The U.S. government is preparing to open a new facility in rural New Mexico to hold hundreds of unaccompanied children arriving from Central America as state officials call on federal authorities to do more to stop the migration.

"Dang it, the federal government has got a job to do," Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer said Wednesday in Nogales, where she toured a southern Arizona facility housing nearly 1,000 children apprehended at the U.S.-Mexico border.

The surge of border crossings has strained the limits of existing resources, prompting the Republican governor to renew her criticism of the Obama administration's immigration policies.

Brewer said states have no authority in addressing the matter, referring to a federal lawsuit against Arizona over its sweeping immigration bill known as SB1070.

Thousands of families and unaccompanied children have been coming to the U.S. in recent months as they flee violence, killings and extortion from criminal gangs in Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras. Many are under the impression they will receive leniency from U.S. authorities, despite coming to the country illegally.

Homeland Security Secre-

tary Jeh Johnson, who was with Brewer during the walkthrough in Nogales, attempted to knock down that perception.

"I want to continue to emphasize to all those who are listening, including the parents of kids, parents that may be considering sending their kid from Central America, that this journey is a dangerous one and

at the end of it there is no free pass, there is no 'permisos' for your children to come to the United States," Johnson said.

About 900 children are being held in the Nogales center while undergoing removal proceedings. They're often reunited with family in the U.S. before immigration court cases play out.



Procurement And Supply CNMI Government

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFP NO.: RFP14-CHCC-111

SUBMISSION DATE: JULY 14, 2014 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"OUTSIDE GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION"

The Scope of Work is available on or after June 13, 2014 at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at Lower Base Drive during regular working hours.

Questions regarding this project may be submitted to Ms. Esther L. Muna, CEO-CHCC via e-mail to esther.muna@dph.gov.mp no later than the close of business, July 02, 2014.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals; in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/ ESTHER L. MUNA
Chief Executive Officer, CHCC

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAM
Director, P&S

Century Insurance Company Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following position:

Accountant

Preferably a college graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting with at least 3 years work-related experience in Property and Casualty Insurance, handling cashiering, disbursements, receivables, payables, purchasing and general accounting procedures. Knowledge in SAP R3 FICO system, General Insurance Information System, MS Word and Excel software is an advantage. Must be able to work under time pressure and flexible hours.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at Century Insurance Company Ltd. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Monday, July 07, 2014.

Century Insurance Company Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

Restituto Alqueza Jr. and
Tricia Manglona
P.O. Box 7262 SVBR
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: (670) 285-9362

pro se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In The Matter Of The) FCD-AD

Adoption Of:) CIVIL ACTION

D.M.A. (d.o.b. 10/25/2007)) NO. 14-0270

Minor Child)

By:)

Restituto Alqueza Jr.) NOTICE OF

and Tricia Manglona) HEARING

Petitioner(s),)

)

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on August 4, 2014 at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom 205A, before the Honorable Judge Govendo.

Dated this 18th day of June, 2014.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962

E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Commonwealth Ports Authority hereby gives notice that a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Monday, June 30, 2014, at 10:00 a.m. in the CPA Conference Room, Second Floor of the Captain George Fleming Building, at the Port of Saipan.

AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
 - 1. Call to Order
 - 2. Roll Call

II. CORRESPONDENCES COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1. Financial Affairs Committee
- 2. Airport Facilities Committee

IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

V. OLD BUSINESS

- None.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. General Report on BIG LLC Lease Agreement
- 2. Tandem Skydive
- 3. Tinian Harbor Seawater Firefighting System – A/E Services
- 4. SIA PAPI/REIL Installation – CM Services

VII. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION/Legal Counsel Report

X. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOILO
Chairman, Board of Directors

June 26, 2014

Asia

In a first, China sends a minister to Taiwan

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—China has sent its first ever ministerial-level official to Taiwan for four days of meetings to rebuild ties with the self-ruled island that Beijing claims as its own.

Protests in Taipei had set back relations earlier this year—and Zhang Zhijun had to go around scores of anti-China demonstrators to enter a hotel for the talks—but he said he was very happy to be the first Taiwan Affairs Office minister to visit the island.

“To reach Taiwan from Beijing I flew three hours, but to take that step took no less than 65 years,” he said in remarks opening the meeting with his counterpart Wang Yu-chi.

China has described the trip as a chance for Zhang to understand the island better. Analysts say he will likely keep a low profile as he travels around Taiwan through Saturday, avoiding strong political statements during scheduled chats with students, low-income people and a figure in Taiwan’s anti-China chief opposition party.

Afghan forces fight Taliban onslaught in south

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan (AP)—Afghan security forces fought back against a fierce Taliban onslaught by about 800 militants in a key southern province Wednesday as clashes that have killed dozens of people, including at least 35 civilians, stretched into a fourth day.

The Taliban attacks targeting checkpoints and government buildings in Helmand province—which was touted as a showcase of a major U.S. military offensive to drive out the militants in 2009—show the stark challenges facing government troops trying to defend the country against the resilient Islamic militants with diminishing help from the international community.

Afghanistan’s security situation has been complicated by a political crisis stemming from allegations of massive fraud in the recent election to replace

China and Taiwan have been separately ruled since the Chinese civil war of the 1940s. China sees the island as part of its territory that eventually must be reunified—by force if necessary—despite a Taiwanese public largely wary of the notion of Chinese rule.

In 2008, Beijing set aside its military threats to sign agreements binding its economy to that of the investment-hungry island.

Dialogue opened that year as Taiwan President Ma Ying-jeou agreed to put off political issues to build trust and improve the island’s economy through tie-ups with China’s much larger one. The two sides have signed 21 deals, boosting two-way trade to \$124.4 billion last year and bringing in about 3 million mainland tourists, who were once all but banned.

The easing in tensions across the Taiwan Strait has been welcomed by Washington, and its top diplomat for East Asia, Daniel Russel, said the U.S. was watching Zhang’s

visit with interest.

“We welcome all steps forward on cross-Strait relations that are acceptable to the people on both sides,” Russel told reporters in Washington.

But in March, hundreds of student-led protesters forcibly occupied parliament in Taipei to try to stop ratification of a two-way service trade liberalization pact between the mainland and Taiwan. The 24-day action dubbed the Sunflower Movement spiraled into the thousands, many of whom demanded an end to Taiwan’s engagement with China, which they still see as an enemy.

On Wednesday Zhang compared China-Taiwan relations to taking a boat upstream.

“If it doesn’t go forward, it goes backward,” he said.

The two men discussed details of establishing first-ever consular-style offices to help to investors and tourists. They also agreed to renegotiate minor clauses of the services trade pact after it takes effect.

President Hamid Karzai, the only leader the country has known since the Taliban regime was ousted nearly 13 years ago. Abdullah Abdullah, one of two candidates who competed a runoff vote on June 14 suspended his relations with the Independent Election Commission after he accused electoral officials of engineering extensive vote rigging, allegations they have denied.

His rival, Ashraf Ghani Ahmadzai, called on Abdullah to rejoin the process and demanded that the commission stick to the official timetable for releasing preliminary results next week.

“We believe that the only way forward is full adherence to the constitution, to the election law and to the regulations. We therefore are dismayed that our esteemed colleague Dr. Abdullah has withdrawn from the pro-

cess. Our request to him is simple—join back to the process. Respect the will of the people,” Ahmadzai, a former finance minister and World Bank official, told supporters at a rally.

Afghan soldiers and police were applauded last year for largely holding their own against the Taliban, but the militants have stepped up their campaign of violence in a bid to undermine the Western-backed government. The relentless insurgency has raised concern that the departure of most foreign forces will lead to new instability in the war-weary country. The Obama administration has said it would leave some 10,000 American troops in the country if a much-delayed bilateral security pact is signed. That would also pave the way for thousands of forces from other NATO countries to remain.

A cease-fire, already fragile, is set to expire Friday, the same day that Ukraine signs a pivotal economic agreement with the European Union and the day that the EU and U.S. may consider further punitive measures against Russia.

After months of upheaval, this much is clear: The West

appears to accept that it can do nothing about Russia’s annexation of Crimea, while Moscow seems resigned to Ukraine signing the sweeping trade pact that will bind the country more closely to the EU.

It was the former Ukrainian president’s abrupt decision late last year to back out of the EU deal under pressure from Russia that triggered the current crisis.

But much uncertainty still surrounds the future of eastern Ukraine, where government troops are battling armed Moscow-backed separatists. The cease-fire has been repeatedly interrupted by fighting since it went into force last Friday.

Explosion rocks mall in Nigerian capital

ABUJA, Nigeria (AP)—An explosion blamed on Islamic extremists rocked a shopping mall in Nigeria’s capital, Abuja, and police said 21 people were killed.

The blast came as Nigerians were preparing to watch their country’s Super Eagles play Argentina at the World Cup in Brazil. Many shops at the mall have TV screens but it was unclear if the explosion was timed to coincide with the match, which started an hour later.

Witnesses said body parts were scattered around the exit to Emab Plaza, in Abuja’s up-

scale Wuse 2 suburb. One witness said he thought the bomb was dropped at the entrance to the mall by a motorcyclist. All spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of reprisals.

Soldiers shot and killed one suspect as he tried to escape on a power bike and police detained a second suspect, Mike Omeri, the government spokesman for the insurgency, said in a statement.

Billows of black smoke could be seen from a mile (kilometer) away, and police said 17 vehicles were burnt out in the blast.

“I heard the explosion and

(felt) the building shaking,” said Shuaibu Baba, who had a narrow escape. He said he rushed downstairs to find that the driver who had dropped him a few minutes earlier was dead. “I asked the driver to come with me, and he said ‘No,’ he would wait for me in the car.”

Police Superintendent Frank Mba said 17 people were wounded and 21 bodies were recovered.

Omeri urged people to be calm and said the government was doing everything possible “to check the activities of insurgents.”

World

Kerry issues warning after Syria bombs Iraq

BAGHDAD (AP)—Syrian warplanes bombed Sunnis’ positions inside Iraq, military officials confirmed Wednesday, deepening the concerns that the extremist insurgency that spans the two neighboring countries could morph into an even wider regional conflict.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry warned against the threat and said other nations should stay out. Meanwhile, a new insurgent artillery offensive against Christian villages in the north of Iraq sent thousands of Christians fleeing from their homes, seeking sanctuary in Kurdish-controlled territory, Associated Press reporters who witnessed the scene said.

The United States government and a senior Iraqi military official confirmed that Syrian warplanes bombed militants’ positions Tuesday in and near the border crossing in the town of Qaim. Iraq’s other neighbors—Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Turkey—were all bolstering flights just inside their airspace to monitor the situation, said the Iraqi official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media.

West to Putin: Prove commitment to Ukraine peace

MOSCOW (AP)—The Kremlin on Wednesday renounced the right to send troops into Ukraine and voiced support for a peace plan, but the West said Russia must do much more to stop the fighting in eastern Ukraine if it wants to avoid a new, more crippling round of sanctions.

A cease-fire, already fragile, is set to expire Friday, the same day that Ukraine signs a pivotal economic agreement with the European Union and the day that the EU and U.S. may consider further punitive measures against Russia.

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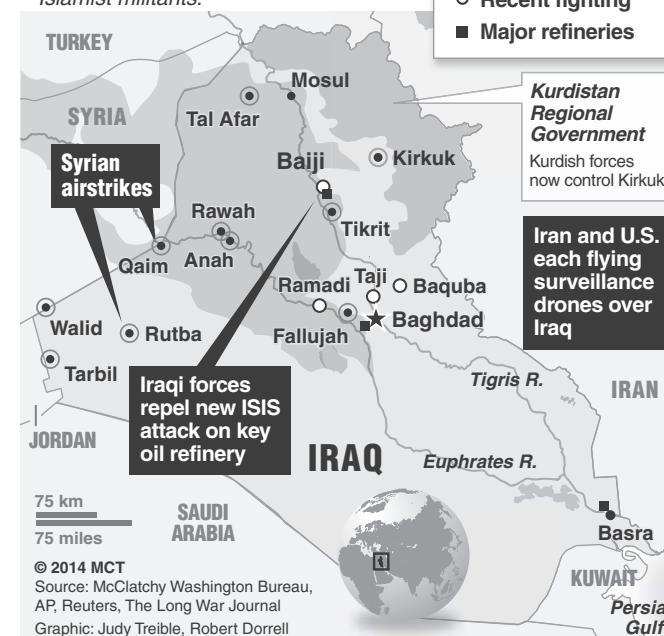
It was the former Ukrainian president’s abrupt decision late last year to back out of the EU deal under pressure from Russia that triggered the current crisis.

But much uncertainty still surrounds the future of eastern Ukraine, where government troops are battling armed Moscow-backed separatists. The cease-fire has been repeatedly interrupted by fighting since it went into force last Friday.

The same message was delivered by the German chancellor and the NATO chief.

Syria bombs insurgents in Iraq

Syria has stepped up air attacks on ISIS targets striking in both Syria and Iraq. The attacks reverse what had been a hands-off policy toward the Islamist militants.



American officials said the target was the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, the Sunni extremist group that has seized large swathes of Iraq and seeks to carve out a purist Islamic enclave across both sides of the Syria-Iraq border.

“We’ve made it clear to everyone in the region that we don’t need anything to take

place that might exacerbate the sectarian divisions that are already at a heightened level of tension,” Kerry said, speaking in Brussels at a meeting of diplomats from NATO nations.

“It’s already important that nothing take place that contributes to the extremism or could act as a flash point with respect to the sectarian divide.”

At Putin’s request, the Russian parliament rescinded a resolution that had empowered him to intervene militarily in Ukraine. Putin said his request was intended to support the peace process.

U.S. and European governments welcomed the step but said it was not enough.

“Now we believe it’s critical for President Putin to prove by his actions, not just his words, that he is indeed fully committed to peace,” U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said at a meeting of diplomats from NATO nations in Brussels.

The same message was delivered by the German chancellor and the NATO chief.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Search for missing Malaysian plane shifts south

SYDNEY (AP)—Australian officials say the hunt for the missing Malaysia Airlines plane will shift farther south of the most recent suspected crash site in a remote stretch of Indian Ocean. Transport Minister Warren Truss told reporters in Canberra on Thursday that the new search area is based on fresh analysis of existing satellite data from Malaysia Airlines Flight 370. The plane vanished during a flight from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing on March 8 with 239 passengers and crew aboard. The shift was expected. The

head of the Australian Transport Safety Bureau said last week it would move south of an area where a remote-controlled underwater drone spent weeks fruitlessly scouring 850 square kilometers (330 square miles) of seabed.

US to disband anti-terror force in Philippines

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—American and Filipino officials say the U.S. is disbanding an anti-terror task force composed of hundreds of elite military forces after more than a decade of helping fight al-Qaida-linked militants in the southern

Philippines. Defense Secretary Voltaire Gazmin said Thursday that the Philippines has been notified by U.S. officials of their plan to deactivate the Joint Special Operations Task Force Philippines, adding the number of American military personnel has been considerably reduced in the south. U.S. Embassy spokesman Kurt Hoyer says the success of the task force in helping Filipino forces beat back militants has led American military planners “to begin on a transition plan where the JSOTF-P as a task force will no longer exist.” Some U.S. troops will remain to ensure the militants cannot recover.

ABUJA, Nigeria (AP)—An explosion blamed on Islamic extremists rocked a shopping mall in Nigeria’s capital, Abuja, and police said 21 people were killed.

The blast came as Nigerians were preparing to watch their country’s Super Eagles play Argentina at the World Cup in Brazil. Many shops at the mall have TV screens but it was unclear if the explosion was timed to coincide with the match, which started an hour later.

Witnesses said body parts were scattered around the exit to Emab Plaza, in Abuja’s up-



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

CUC-RFP-14-018

FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE AUDIT FOR FISCAL YEARS ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2014 & 2015

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director, is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms to perform a financial and compliance audit of the CUC for the fiscal years ending September 30, 2014 & 2015. The audit must be performed in compliance with the latest revision of the following guidelines:

1. *OMB Circular A-133*
2. *Standard for Audits of Government Organization, Programs, Activities and Function, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States*
3. *Audits of States and Local Government Units, Industry Audit guide issued by the American Institute of Public Accountants (AICPA)*

The date of contract award will be no later than August 29, 2014.

The RFP package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 for one RFP package set.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-14-018, Financial and Compliance Audit for Fiscal Years Ending September 2014 & 2015" to Mr. Michael Pai, Public Auditor, Office of the Public Auditor, 1236 Yap Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM (ChST), local time, on July 28, 2014. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discuss and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All inquiries regarding the RFP must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on July 11, 2014 to Michael Pai, Public Auditor, Office of the Public Auditor, 1236 Yap Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950 with a copy to Charles Warren, CUC Chief Financial Officer, via email address charles_warren@cucgov.org; and Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reasons and to waive any defects in any proposals if, in its sole opinion, to do so will be in the best interest of the CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Executive Director



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS AUTOMATIC TRANSFER SWITCH (ATS) SYSTEM OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR RFP14-GOV-109

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lieutenant Governor Jude U. Hofschneider, through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Office, (collectively, "Commonwealth") are soliciting sealed proposals from qualified contractors to assess/recommend electrical load calculation, supply and install required ATS, and existing generator and generator house at the Governor's Office in Capitol Hill, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001, or latest revision thereof. Public Law 15-95 Local Preference Act, as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package and scope of work will be available on Tuesday, June 3, 2014 at the Governor's CIP Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, CNMI.

A pre-proposal meeting is scheduled on Tuesday, June 17, 2014, 10:00 a.m., at the job-site Governor's Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, CNMI. Questions regarding the Request for Proposals must be submitted in writing to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadja, P.E., Project Manager, CIP Office, or email to balajadaelizabeth@hotmail.com or facsimile to (670) 664-2408, no later than 4 p.m., ChST, June 19, 2014.

Proposers must submit with their proposal a project approach and a schedule of completion, addressing the scope of work requirements with details of how the work will be performed and accomplished. The total proposal length shall not exceed 15 pages in length. Note, a firm that submits a proposal as a prime contractor cannot also submit as a subcontractor on another proposal. However, as a subcontractor, a company may be included in multiple proposals by different contractors.

Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

1. Qualifications and experience on similar projects	40%
2. Work load and resources to accomplish work in the required time frame	40%
3. Past performance with the CNMI Government on similar projects	20%
4. Cost	0%

Performance time for completion of the AUTOMATIC TRANSFER SWITCH (ATS) SYSTEM OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR is sixty (60) calendar days upon issuance of a Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed and shall be the greater of (i) Two Hundred Dollars (US\$200.00), or (ii) two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by the number of calendar days of the contract time, the contract time and contract price being determined at the time of the assessment of liquidated damages for each and every day beyond the established completion date.

Discussions shall be conducted with the top three (3) ranked firms. After a selection is made, negotiations will be conducted with the highest qualified firm to determine the final fair and reasonable price of the contract for the work to be performed. The successful proposers will be subjected to a responsibility and responsiveness determination in compliance with Section 3-301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

Proposals must be sealed and marked RFP14-GOV-109 AUTOMATIC TRANSFER SWITCH (ATS) SYSTEM OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR. For proposers within the CNMI, one original and three (3) copies of the proposals must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, MP, no later than 10:00 a.m. ChST, June 30, 2014. Proposers located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of intent to propose. Notices of intent to propose must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m., ChST, June 30, 2014 and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and three (3) copies of the sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than, June 30, 2014, and must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than July 9, 2014. Failure to submit the required number of copies of the proposal may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfection in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interests of the CNMI government. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI government.



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

INVITATION TO BID ITB14-GOV-110

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Puerto Rico Dump Closure Project

OFFICIAL SEAL



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider, through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) office, are soliciting sealed bids for the Puerto Rico Dump Closure Project, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project package will be available on Tuesday, June 3, 2014 at the Governor's CIP Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building on Capitol Hill. A non-refundable payment of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (US \$250.00) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the CIP Office on Capitol Hill. All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001. Public Law 15-95 Local Preference Act, as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this Federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held at the CIP Office followed by a one-time site visit to the Puerto Rico Dump Site Thursday, June 19, 2014. Interested companies who do not attend the mandatory pre-bid meeting will be disqualified from the bidding process. Participants are required to meet promptly at the CIP Office in Capitol Hill, 9:00AM ChST, Thursday, June 19, 2014. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 PM ChST, Thursday, June 26, 2014 to Ms. Elizabeth Balajadja of the Capital Improvement Program, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 664-2408.

Sealed bids must be marked "ITB14-GOV-110". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. ChST, Tuesday, July 15, 2014. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00AM, Tuesday, July 15, 2014 and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than Tuesday, July 15, 2014 and must be received no later than Thursday, July 24, 2014. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 9:00 AM ChST, Friday, July 25, 2014. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will open at 10:30 AM ChST, Tuesday, July 15, 2014.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid bond of fifteen percent (15 %) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be a Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". Surety companies must hold a certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price. The surety company providing the Performance and Payment bonds must be authorized to conduct business in the CNMI and possess unencumbered assets equal to the penal amount of each bond. Performance time for completion of this project is Five Hundred Forty (540) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be the greater of (i) One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), or (ii) two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by Five Hundred Forty (540) calendar days, the contract time, and will be assessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Is/ELOY S. INOS, Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Is/Herman S. Sablan, Director
Procurement and Supply, DOF

IN HUMBLE GRATITUDE

Thank you for grieving with us. Thank you for praying with us and for us. May God's love abound to you today and always, and may His blessings enrich your lives with wisdom, fortitude, and grace.

Now, our Papa sings with the angels, plays golf with Jesus, and laughs with God. In quiet moments, we are sure Papa prays for all those he left behind who wait expectantly for the day when they are called home. In our quiet moments, let us join Papa in those prayers.

We pray that God's peace settle upon your heart.

We, the family of the late

†Jose Camacho Cabrera “RC”

wish to express our gratitude to Bishop Emeritus Tomas A. Camacho, Very Reverend Fr. Ryan Jimenez for presiding over the Mass of Christian Burial, Monsignor James LG. Benavente and Fr. Richard M. Kidd from the Archdiocese of Hagatna, Fr. Isaac M. Ayuyu, Fr. Sid Ogunoro, Fr. Rey Rosal, Fr. Dodoy Teclic, Fr. Romil Aperocho, Fr. Jesse Reyes, Fr. Jason Granado, Fr. Tinog Daynos and Fr. Sixto for assisting in Eucharistic celebration, the acolytes for Kristo Rai Church and the unselfish help of Ray.

We are forever grateful to Vic and Marcy Cepeda for always being at our side to help us and reciting the nightly rosaries.

Our greatest appreciation to the Olomwaay Family Choir under the direction of Mr. Gus Kaipat for the beautiful music provided to us for the Funeral Service at church and beyond †Papa's Interment Service.

Thank you to Hermie and Amor for the daily care and comfort of †Papa.

We especially thank the men from St. Michael's ambulance for the extreme care in transporting my husband “RC” to his treatments at least six times a week for several years. Thank you to the doctors, nurses and staff of CHCC and most of all the team of the Hemodialysis Center for the care, compassion, and patience extended to my husband.

To our special cousins, your unusual sense of humor filled †Papa's life with joy, peace and laughter.

For all – All whom have unselfishly helped us in one way or another, Thank You.

To all who have traveled to come and grieve with us, Si Yu'us Ma'ase.

May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you and your family peace. Amen.

Thank you for your love and support.

Queenie Wu and Tisha Wu Cabrera

Children and families of the late

†Jose Camacho Cabrera and †Rita Cruz Cabrera

Science & Technology

Google shows off Android Auto, wearable gadgets

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Some 1 billion people are now using Android devices, Google said as the company kicked off its two-day developer conference Wednesday in San Francisco.

But the online search leader's effort to broaden its focus beyond smartphones and tablets was on full display as the company unveiled far-reaching plans to push further into the living room, the family car and the TV set.

As part of a nearly three-hour opening presentation, Google gave more details about Android Wear, a version of the operating system customized for wearable gadgets such as smartwatches. The company also introduced Android Auto, which has been tailored to work with cars. Android TV, meanwhile, is optimized for TV-watching, aided by a recommendation system and voice searches for things like "Breaking Bad" or "Oscar-nominated movies from 2002."

About 6,000 developers, bloggers and journalists flocked to the event. Following Google's recent revelation that showed that just 30 percent of its employees are women, the company touted



A man wears a Moto 360 by Motorola, an Android Wear smartwatch, on the demo floor at Google I/O 2014 in San Francisco, Wednesday, June 25, 2014.

that the number of women attending its conference grew to 20 percent this year from 8 percent a year earlier.

"We were joking, that we're at a tech conference and there is a line to the bathroom," said developer Tricia Barton, referring to a common occurrence at tech events—long lines to the men's bathrooms while the women's facilities sit mostly empty. Barton was one of some 1,000 female I/O attendees that Google invited to networking dinners the night

before the conference, at restaurants around San Francisco.

Wednesday's three-hour keynote address was interrupted at several points by protesters who were quickly escorted out. Google has been the subject of disapproval for its use of shuttle buses to ferry its employees from San Francisco to its Mountain View headquarters. The buses have become a symbol of the divide between Silicon Valley's tech millionaires and those left out of the latest boom.

TECH Q&A

A hidden conflict halts her email

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

QUESTION: I've been having difficulty with Yahoo email. While I'm usually able to reply to an email, I can't compose or forward a message. Instead I get the message "Yahoo is not responding." My friends on Yahoo have similar complaints. What should I do?

ANSWER: You've run into a software conflict between Yahoo Mail and your Web browser's add-on software (sometimes called "plug-ins"). Add-ons give your browser new features, such as the ability to show animation or to interact with Microsoft Office. There are three solutions: change the Yahoo Mail settings, deactivate your browser add-ons, or try a different browser.

The Yahoo settings solution: Your account is probably set to use what's called the "Rich Text" format, which allows you to change the color of text, alter the typeface or vary the text style (such as adding bullet points.) To reduce the potential for conflict with your browser, you need to turn off Rich Text and use Plain Text instead.

To do this, click on the "Compose" icon in Yahoo Mail, and click the left-facing double arrow icon on the toolbar below the email. This will cause most of the other icons in the toolbar to disappear; instead you'll see a right-facing double arrow next to the paper clip icon for attachments.

To disable the browser add-ons for the Microsoft Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox, Apple Safari or Google Chrome browsers, see Yahoo Help's explanation at <http://tinyurl.com/pj65r4s>.

To download a new browser: Firefox (<http://tinyurl.com/chls6cx>), Safari (<http://tinyurl.com/ccnzb0n>) or Chrome (<http://tinyurl.com/lo6kkkd>), Safari (<http://tinyurl.com/ccnzb0n>) or Chrome (<http://tinyurl.com/lo6kkkd>) or Chrome (<http://tinyurl.com/lo6kkkd>).

Q: How can I get rid of "PC Power Speed System Optimizer," which I downloaded thinking it would help my computer?

A: This is a bogus security program that falsely claims your computer is infected with a variety of malicious software, which it offers to remove for

a price. There are a couple of ways to get rid of it.

Delete Optimizer while Windows is in "Safe Mode," a minimal version of Windows that will keep the malicious software on your computer from activating.

To start in Safe Mode in Windows 8, see <http://tinyurl.com/pwfnne>. Then in "Startup Settings" choose "Enable Safe Mode." To start Safe Mode in Windows 7 and earlier Windows versions, press the F8 key while the PC is starting up, then from the menu choose "Safe Mode."

Once in Safe Mode, use your antivirus program to search for and delete Optimizer. Or run System Restore, which can return your PC settings to a calendar date before Optimizer was installed (see <http://tinyurl.com/ybe3wny>).

To delete Optimizer manually: Follow the directions at <http://tinyurl.com/nn766g>. Be careful because you're deleting data from the PC's Registry, or settings database, and a mistake can impair the PC's ability to run.

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune.



In Loving Memory of
†Edward George Richards
December 11, 1922 – June 23, 2014

In His New Life, He Now Joins His:

Father: William Henry Richards
Mother: †Rosina Sarah Catherine Grigson
Brother and Sisters: †Frank Richards, †Rosemary Smith, †Olive Fowler, †William Richards
Father In-Law: Florencio S. Quitugua
Sister In-Law: †Remedio Q. Falig

His Memories Will Forever Live in the Hearts of His:

Wife: Virginia Quitugua Richards
Children: Trisha Q. Richards/Edward M. Ayuyu (Edward II, Adela, Bobbie Jean, Chelsea) Florencio Q. Richards & Juliet Laniyo (Jacinia, Edward Gene, Florencio Jr., Koilan, William) Edward Duane Q. Richards & Ashley Anne Ada (Destiny)
Former Spouse: Phyllis Langley Richards
Children: Brian Peter Richards Andrina Richards Lever
Brother and Sister: Peter Richards and Mary Huxton
Mother In-Law: Adela I. Quitugua
Brothers & Sisters In-Law: †Remedio Q. Falig and Children, Carmen I. Quitugua & John Yancey and children, Jesus & Sofina Tomokane and children, Matilde I. Quitugua and children, Alicia I. Quitugua and children, †Derry Noisom & Luisi and children, Scott & Teresita Phillips and children, Jose I. & Susan Quitugua and children, Joseph P. & Mercedes Deleon Guerrero and children, Juan I. Quitugua and children, Antonio & Diana Gabaldon and children, Lydia I. Quitugua and children

He will also be missed by numerous nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, relatives and friends.

Holy Rosary is being said at 5:00PM and Mass of Intentions is offered at 6:00PM at St. Jude Parish in Koblerville.

On Tuesday, July 1, 2014. His remains will be escorted at 7:30AM from CHC Chapel to St. Jude Parish for viewing and last respects. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00AM followed by Interment Service at the Tanapag Cemetery.

Your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Thank You – Si Yu'use Ma'ase – Ghilisow
The Family

Science Matters

Coral, partner help colony survive

Corals and algae live together in a mutually beneficial relationship; new DNA studies show that the coral's ability to survive stress depends on both partners.

Elkhorn coral stand in Curacao; branches can reach 6.5 ft. (2 m)

STAND

COLONY

POLYP

ALGAE

COLONY

Tree-like colony of many tiny animals (polyps), which make hard mineral skeletons
This is a young colony of polyps

POLYP

All the colony's polyps descend from a single parent and are genetically identical

ALGAE

Study found that polyps do not exchange their algae for more efficient ones even when stressed

Algae living inside polyps are also genetically identical cells

Algae make sugars from water, CO₂ and light; polyp consumes up to 90% of food made by algae

Symbiodinium fitti algae cells

Source: I. Baums, T. LaJeunesse and M. Durante of Penn State University
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas

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Life & Style

Leftover lingerie still lingers in boyfriend's dresser drawers

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



DEAR ABBY: I have been seeing my boyfriend for five months. He still has some of his ex-girlfriend's lingerie in his dresser. When we first got involved, he showed it to me and asked if I wanted any. I said no thanks.

Now that I'm more invested in the relationship, I'd like him to get rid of it. He is currently out of town, traveling for a month. Would it be inappropriate for me to throw away these "trinkets" without consulting him?

SETTING BOUNDARIES IN ARIZONA

DEAR SETTING BOUNDARIES: Yes, I think it would be inappropriate. Although your boyfriend will probably tell you to go ahead and get rid of it if it bothers you, it would be more respectful if you clear it with him first.

DEAR ABBY: I was recently told by a neighbor that if he wasn't married, he would make a pass at me. It made me feel kind of bad, especially the next day when I saw his wife.

My niece said I shouldn't feel bad because it was a compliment and I should be glad I still attract attention at 60. My feeling is, if you think about it—it's infidelity.

Am I wrong or too stringent in my thinking?

OLD-FASHIONED LADY IN OREGON

DEAR OLD-FASHIONED: I think what your neighbor said was less "infidelity" than "lust in his heart." But in a sense, he did make a pass because when he said what he did, he signaled to you that he could be interested.

Cut him some slack this time and chalk it up to having been paid a compliment. But if he says it again, tell him it bothers you because you like his wife and think it's insulting to her.

DEAR ABBY: My fiance, "Todd," and I just became engaged and are starting to plan our wedding. The problem is his father is remarried to a terrible woman. Todd grew up with her, but he can't stand her, and I feel the same way.

I gave her a chance, but she got drunk—something she does often—and insulted my mother. Obviously, my mother and Todd are my priorities.

Todd and I do not want her at our wedding because we're afraid she'll get drunk and make a scene, but how do we manage that? How do we make it clear that we love his dad and want him there, but his wife is not welcome?

NERVOUS BRIDE-TO-BE IN FLORIDA

DEAR NERVOUS: You and Todd should talk to his father and express your concerns that his wife's unpredictable behavior could ruin your wedding. Ask how he thinks this should be handled. He may agree to attend alone or choose to skip the wedding. He could also promise you that if his wife gets loaded and becomes disruptive, he will escort her out of there immediately. (Suggest it to him if he's unwilling to come without her.)

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable—and most frequently requested—poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

North Korea's take on new US movie: "Act of war"

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea is warning that the release of a new American comedy about a plot to assassinate leader Kim Jong Un would be an "act of war."

If the U.S. government doesn't block the movie's release, it will face "stern" and "merciless" retaliation, an unidentified spokesman for North Korea's Foreign Ministry said in state media Wednesday.

He didn't mention the movie by name but was clearly referring to "The Interview," which stars Seth Rogen and James Franco as a producer and talk-show host who land an exclusive interview with the North Korean dictator and are then asked by the CIA to assassinate him.

The "reckless U.S. provocative insanity" of mobilizing a "gangster filmmaker" to challenge the North's leadership is triggering "a gust of hatred and rage" among North Korean people and soldiers, the spokesman said, in typically heated propaganda language.

The film's release would be considered an "act of war that we will never tolerate," he said.

With no independent press of its own, North Korea often holds foreign governments responsible for the content of their media. Pyongyang regularly warns Seoul to prevent its conservative press from mocking or criticizing its leadership, something banned within authoritarian North Korea, where the Kim family is revered.

Trailers have been released for the movie, which is set to hit U.S. theaters in October.

The current leader's late father, Kim Jong Il, was a noted movie buff, lauded in the North for writing a treatise on film. He also ordered the kidnapping of prolific South Korean director and producer Shin Sang-ok in 1978, who then spent years making movies for Kim before escaping, Shin said.

A spokesman for "The Interview" studio Sony Pictures didn't immediately respond to a request for comment, but the film's co-writer, co-director and co-star mocked the controversy on Twitter.

"Apparently, Kim Jong Un plans on watching 'The Interview,'" Seth Rogen tweeted last

Friday. "I hope he likes it!!"

The "Knocked Up" and "Neighbors" funnyman later posted Wednesday that "people don't usually wanna kill me for one of my movies until after they've paid 12 bucks for it."

It's not the first time that North Korean leadership has served as comic fodder: a puppet rendition of Kim Jong Il served as the villain in the 2004 film "Team America: World Police," and comedians Margaret Cho and Bobby Lee respectively impersonated the North Korean dictator on the NBC comedy series "30 Rock" and the Fox sketch show "MADtv."

Randall Park, a Korean-American actor, is portraying Kim Jong Un in "The Interview."

Plea deal talks fall apart in Chris Brown case

WASHINGTON (AP)—Singer Chris Brown was close to resolving his assault case in a deal that would have kept him out of jail, but talks fell apart Wednesday when attorneys couldn't agree on what Brown would acknowledge happened during a scuffle that led to his arrest.

Brown was arrested in October and charged with misdemeanor assault after a man accused the singer of hitting him when he tried to get in a photograph Brown was taking with two women outside a Washington hotel. At the time, Brown was on probation in California for a 2009 attack on singer Rihanna, his then girlfriend.

Prosecutor Kevin Chambers said in court that Brown rejected a deal to plead guilty to misdemeanor assault and receive a sentence of time served.

Brown spent the night in jail in Washington after his arrest and also served time in California after acknowledging he violated probation by committing a crime in Washington. He was released from jail in early June.

The Grammy-winning artist has had several flare-ups since the attack on Rihanna, including being accused of breaking a window after a 2011 "Good Morning America" interview and being involved in a fistfight with singer Frank Ocean's entourage, but none of them have led to charges. He also went to rehab for anger management, but was kicked out.

In the Washington case, the singer's attorney, Mark Geragos, said defense lawyers and prosecutors couldn't agree on a statement of facts about what happened outside the W hotel.



Brown

"They wanted him to read from a script that wasn't true," Geragos said after the hearing.

Asked what disagreement was over, Geragos declined to say.

The attorneys had been in talks until hours before the hearing, but could not resolve the issue. A trial for Brown was scheduled for Sept. 8. It is expected to take a day and a half.

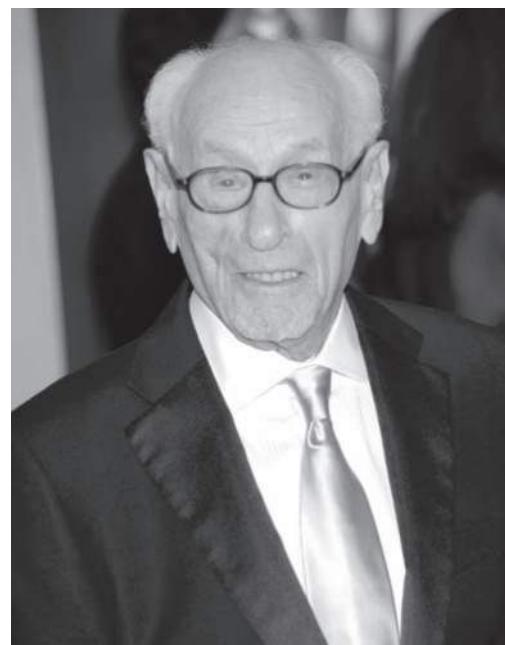
"If they want a trial, that's what they'll get," Geragos said outside court where fans mobbed Brown, screaming and taking photographs of the singer.

Also in court was Brown's bodyguard, Christopher Hollosy, who was charged in the same Washington scuffle. Hollosy was accused of being the second person after Brown to strike Parker Adams, the man who said Brown became agitated after Adams tried to take a selfie with Brown and two women Adams was with. Hollosy was convicted of misdemeanor assault in April but has not yet been sentenced.

Hollosy's attorney, Bernard Grimm, was granted more time to ask for a new trial after he said there was potential new evidence in the case. He did not say publicly what it was.

Brown's lawyers have said they want Hollosy to testify at Brown's trial. He's expected to say that he, not Brown, struck Adams.

Eli Wallach, veteran character actor, dies at 98



Eli Wallach arrives at the 38th International Emmy Awards, Monday, Nov. 22, 2010, in New York.

NEW YORK (AP)—As a masterful character actor and early product of postwar, Method-style theater, Eli Wallach wore countless faces, disappearing into them all. But he was always propelled—in acting and in life—by a mischievousness and an abiding playfulness that made him a tireless performer, an enduring family man and, of course, one immortal scoundrel.

"I never lost my appetite for acting," Wallach

wrote in his 2005 memoir "The Good, the Bad, and Me," named after his most famous film. "I feel like a magician."

Wallach died Tuesday evening from natural causes after 98 years of life, 66 years of marriage and some 100 films, including several he made in his 90s. His son, Peter Wallach, confirmed his death Wednesday.

The versatile, raspy-voiced actor was a mainstay of Tennessee Williams' plays (he won a Tony Award for "The Rose Tattoo" in 1951) and an original member of the Actors Studio in the early days of Method acting. But the most notable credit in his prolific career was "The Good, the Bad and the Ugly," in which he played the rascally Mexican outlaw Tuco.

As the Ugly of the title, he stole Sergio Leone's 1966 spaghetti Western from the Good, Clint Eastwood, with lines like: "When you have to shoot, shoot, don't talk."

"Everywhere I go, someone will recognize me from 'The Good, the Bad and the Ugly' and start whistling the theme song," he said in a 2003 interview, referring to Ennio Morricone's famous score. "I can feel when it's going to happen."

Wallach never won an Oscar, but he was given an honorary Academy Award in 2010, hailed as the "quintessential chameleon."

"I've played more bandits, thieves, killers, warlords, molesters and Mafiosi than you could shake a stick at," Wallach said, accepting the award from Eastwood.

REGAL CINEMAS

Bargin Shows () ★ Pass/Discount Restrictions Apply

SAIPAN MEGAPLEX 7

Near Jooten Superstore in San Jose MP

TRANSFORMERS: AGE OF EXTINCTION [CC,DV] (NR)
Fri. - Sat. (345 PM) 11:00 PM
Sun. - Mon., Thu. (345 PM)

TRANSFORMERS: AGE OF EXTINCTION 3D [CC,DV] (NR)
Fri. - Mon., Thu. (12:00 PM) 7:30 PM
Tue. - Wed. (12:00 PM) 7:30 PM

JERSEY BOYS [CC,DV] (R)
Fri. - Sat. (1245 PM) 4:05 PM
Sun. - Mon. (12:05 PM) 4:05 PM

22 JUMP STREET [CC,DV] (R)
Fri. - Sat. (130 PM) 4:15 PM
Sun. - Mon. (130 PM) 4:15 PM

TUE. - WED. (145 PM) 4:40 PM

HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 2 3D [CC,DV] (NR)
Fri. - Mon. (215 PM) 5:00 PM

TUE. - WED. (245 PM) 3:45 PM

HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 2 [CC,DV] (NR)
Fri. - Sat. (7:45 PM) 10:30 PM

Sun. - Mon. (7:45 PM) 7:45 PM

TUE. - WED. (10:15 AM) 6:45 PM

THE FAULT IN OUR STARS [CC,DV] (PG-13)
Fri. - Sat. (120 PM) 4:20 PM
Sun. - Mon. (12:20 PM) 4:20 PM

TUE. - WED. (12:15 PM) 3:15 PM

EDGE OF TOMORROW [CC,DV] (PG-13)
Fri. - Sat. (4:10 PM) 10:10 PM

Sun. - Mon. (4:10 PM) 4:10 PM

TUE. - WED. (10:10 AM) 4:05 PM

EDGE OF TOMORROW 3D [CC,DV] (PG-13)
Fri. - Mon. (11:00 PM) 7:10 PM

Tue. - Wed. (10:15 PM) 7:10 PM

MALEFICENT 3D [CC,DV] (PG)
Fri. - Mon. (12:30 PM) 7:15 PM

Tue. - Wed. (11:15 PM) 7:05 PM

MALEFICENT [CC,DV] (PG)
Fri. - Sat. (4:45 PM) 9:45 PM

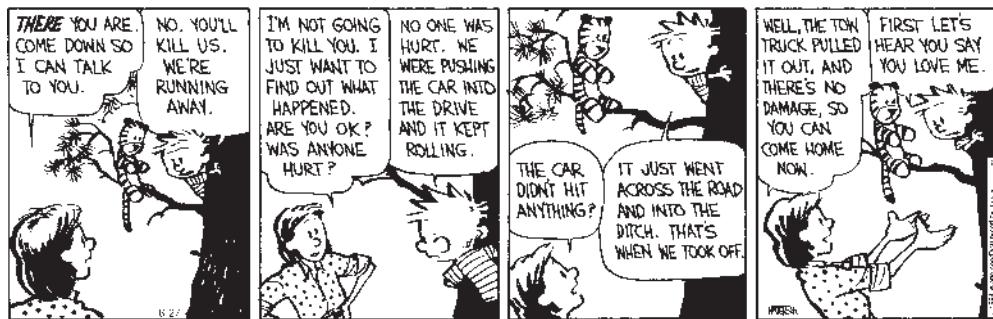
Sun. - Mon. (4:45 PM) 9:45 PM

Tue. - Wed. (10:30 AM) 4:10 PM

Times For 06/27 - 07/03 www.REGmovies.com

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson

Garfield®



By Jim Davis

Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

The Duplex



By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

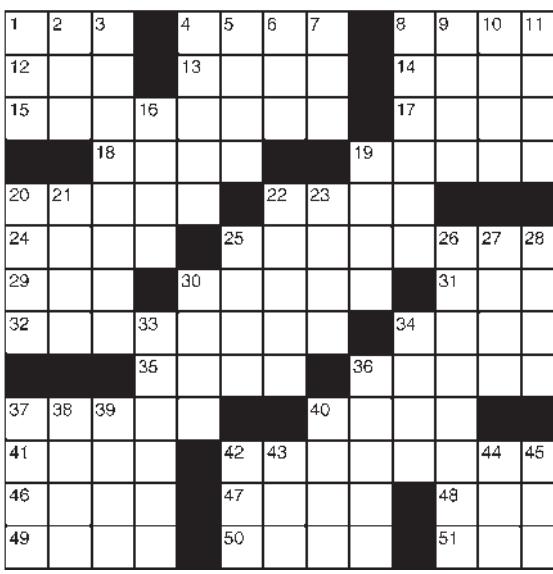
By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	35	One-name super-model	2	Foreman foe	21	Basin accessory
1 Scenery chews	36	Sharpens	3	Philippine island	22	Good roll in Vegas
4 Fellow	37	Garden tool	4	Small plateaus	23	Some-where out there
8 Departed	40	Restau-rateur	5	Dilettant-ish	25	Hay-worth or Moreno
12 Inventor	41	Contain	6	Whopper	26	Nutritional needs
16 Whitney	42	Labyrinth	7	Always, in verse	27	Fix the wording
13 Pennsylvania port	43	beast	8	Firetruck	28	Morse morsels
14 Culture medium	46	October stone	9	"Zounds!"	30	Cupola
15 Church VIP	47	Hertz competitor	10	Drop	33	Center
17 Small valley	48	Deposit	11	Genealog	34	Attempt
18 Wagon	49	Existed	16	annoys	36	"Line Is It Anyway?"
19 Confuse	50	Cartoon skunk	19	Shake-speare's river	37	Presenta-tion
20 High points		Le Pew	20	"— and Circum-stance"	38	Francis, e.g.
22 Rescue		51	Witness		39	Winged
24 Pos-sesses					40	Quick cut
25 Changed for the better					42	Atlas page
29 Culpa lead-in					43	"— Got a Secret"
30 Variety of couch					44	Abu Dhabi's land (Abbr.)
31 Bachelor's final answer					45	Catcher's place?
32 Don King, for one						
34 Fit of peevish-ness						

Solution time: 25 mins.

CLAM	COP	CAGE
LAMA	HUH	ONYX
ALOT	IDIO	CAME
PARC	FCOI	HELLENAYES
HELEN	EL RIO ZIP	ABED TAX VERA
REDDY	ABED TAU ACACIA	TILL GUS MOSEY
TAUT	ACACIA	HELEN REDDY
ALIAS	LAT GONG	TAUT ACACIA
MOLE	EVE ELLIE	ALIAS LAT GONG
AXEL	SAD RATS	MOLE EVE ELLIE

Yesterday's answer 6-27



For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

STUMPED?

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Ed Westwick, 27; Drake Bell, 28; Tobey Maguire, 39; J.J. Abrams, 48.

Happy Birthday: Emotions will be exaggerated this year, but so will your intuition. You will have to gauge the pros and cons carefully every time you face a choice that will alter your future. Too much of anything will work against you. Moderation and moving forward with a well-thought-out plan and an innovative outlook will help you reach your goals. Your numbers are 6, 17, 23, 28, 32, 37, 41.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Watch your step when dealing with a partner or someone you live with. You'll be in a talkative mood, but something you say is likely to get you into trouble. Think before you act. Diplomacy is favored.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Travel will push you in a new direction. Beautifying your home or environment will make you feel good about life. Do something for someone you love and you will improve your relationship. Explore a new idea, place or friendship.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Clear up loose ends at work. How you do your job will determine your future prospects. Love may be on your mind, but deception is apparent. When it comes to affairs of the heart, you are best to proceed with caution.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't overreact or put someone you care about through a difficult time due to your insecurity. A positive approach to love and friendship will

help you bypass an unpleasant encounter. Do something creative to divert a jealous tendency.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You can get ahead regarding financial, medical or legal concerns. Use your imagination and you will be able to resolve issues that seemed impossible in the past. Revisit legal, financial or medical documents and you will find something interesting.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Help will be given if you ask. Offer your services, expertise or time in return so that you don't feel indebted. A problem at work will be due to misrepresentation. Someone you meet at an event will enrich your life.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't count on others to do things for you. Do the legwork yourself and you won't have to worry about the end result. A problem will arise if you share a secret with someone. Romance will heighten your connection with someone special.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You've got plenty going for you. Recognize what you have to offer and run with it. Be proud of what you know and what you have to offer. Step into the spotlight—it's your turn to make a difference. Rewards will be forthcoming.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Take a unique approach to the way you budget and spend your cash. Stop procrastinating and start doing. A change in your personal life and domestic scene is favored. Make an investment in something you see yourself doing in the future.

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COURTESY 2007
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Refrain from putting demands on others. Confusion will set in if you send too strong a signal. Not everyone will agree with you, so don't take anything for granted or make decisions for others. Keep emotions in check.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Improve your relationships by offering assistance wherever possible. Return a favor someone did for you in the past. Your Good Samaritan attitude will bring you goodwill in return. Love is highlighted and romance will pay off.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Invest in your home, family and personal life. Take the time to improve your relationships and to make alterations to your domestic situation. A unique investment will pay off. Explore new people, places and pastimes.

Birthday Baby: You are imaginative, sentimental and enthusiastic. You are unpredictable and courageous.

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

3			8	6	4			
1			4					
	9		5	1				
	2			9				
		2			9			
1	9			4	7			
8		6						
6	3	5						
4	1	9		2				

Difficulty Level ★★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

1	4	7	9	8	2	6	5	3
8	6	9	4	3	5	2	7	1
5	2	3	7	6	1	8	9	4
3	5	2	1	7	6	4	8	9
4	7	8	3	5	9	1	2	6
9	1	6	2	4	8	5	3	7
7	9	5	8	1	4	3	6	2
6	3	1	5	2	7	9	4	8
2	8	4	6	9	3	7	1	5

Difficulty Level ★★★★

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle—horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

REMEMBERING THE COMMODORES

Solution: 11 letters

T	S	E	O	R	H	F	P	O	Y	C	U	L
U	T	N	B	A	D	S	U	R	A	N	M	W
S	E	E	K	L	A	W	E	A	N	G	I	P
K	N	G	J	N	A	S	N	D	I	K	L	L
E	A	U	C	R	I	G	A	S	Y	L	C	A
G	J	E	D	R	E	G	O	L	I	L	O	N
E	L	E	N	O	I	L	H	A	Q	Y	C	N
E	Y	M	A	G	I	C	M	T	S	H	A	D
U	S	S	A	T	L	S	H	K	S	L	C	N
N	E	C	A	U	C	O	C	I	O	H	A	I
I	L	I	Q	E	M	I	V	R	E	H	I	D
T	R	S	B	A	R	N	A	E	D	E	O	F
E	A											

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Giants' Lincecum pitches 2nd no-hitter vs Padres



SAN FRANCISCO

(AP)—Tim

Lincecum pitched his second no-hitter against the San Diego Padres in less than a year, allowing only one runner Wednesday to lead the San Francisco Giants to a 4-0 win.

Lincecum totally shut down the weakest-hitting team in the majors, striking out six and walking one. He retired the final 23 batters after walking Chase Headley in the second inning.

The 30-year-old Lincecum (6-5) threw 113 pitches for this win. Last July 13 at San Diego, he threw 148 pitches while holding the Padres hitless.

The right-hander became the second pitcher in major league history to twice no-hit the same team. This was the third no-hitter in the majors this year.

Lincecum went 2 for 3 with a walk and scored twice. Buster Posey got four hits, including a double, and drove in two runs.

Ian Kennedy (5-9) allowed four runs on nine hits over 6 1/3 innings. He walked one and struck out eight.

Rays 5, Pirates 1

In St. Petersburg, Florida, David Price struck out 11 batters, becoming the first pitcher in 10 years to fan at least 10 in five straight starts as Tampa Bay

beat Pittsburgh.

Price (6-7) gave up five hits and one walk in 8 1-3 innings, leaving the game after Andrew McCutchen's home run in the ninth. The last pitcher with five straight starts of 10 strikeouts was Minnesota's Johan Santana in 2004.

Price also set a franchise record for strikeouts in a month with 54. He went 2-3 in five June starts.

Ben Zobrist's RBI triple highlighted the Rays' three-run first inning off Charlie Morton.

Angels 6, Twins 2

In Anaheim, California, Garrett Richards allowed four hits into the eighth inning to win his fourth straight decision as the Angels earned their fifth straight victory.

Erick Aybar got two hits and stole two bases as Los Angeles won for the 14th time in 16 games at Angel Stadium, moving to a season-high 10 games over .500 at 43-33. The Angels are unbeaten on their homestand, matching their longest winning streak of the year.

Brewers 9, Nationals 2

In Milwaukee, Scooter Gennett had a grand slam and five RBIs, Khris Davis added a solo shot as Milwaukee roughed up ace pitcher Stephen Strasburg in a rout of Washington.

Homer-prone starter Marco Estrada (7-4) allowed just two hits—and no homers—and pitched effectively into the seventh for the Brewers, who bounced back a day after falling 4-2 in 16 innings to Washington.

Davis finished with three RBIs.

Cardinals 9, Rockies 6

In Denver, Matt Adams homered and drove in two runs, and Matt Holliday had three hits as St. Louis rallied to beat Colorado.

Drew Stubbs homered, and Justin Morneau had two hits for the Rockies, who finished their homestand 1-5.

The game featured the major league debuts of both starting pitchers. St. Louis' Marco Gonzales was sharp early before faltering. Colorado's Yohan Flanide also started well before getting hit hard in his last inning.

Yankees 5, Blue Jays 3

In Toronto, Mark Teixeira hit a two-run home run and Hiroki Kuroda won for the first time in four starts as the New York Yankees beat Toronto to end a four-game losing streak.

Kuroda (5-5) won for the first time since May 28, at St. Louis, allowing three runs and eight hits in 6 1-3 innings. He gave up a home run to Jose Reyes on his first pitch.

David Robertson got five outs for his 18th save in 20 tries.

Red Sox 5, Mariners 4

In Seattle, David Ortiz hit the 449th home run of his career in the first inning and added a line drive RBI single off the wall in the third as the Boston Red Sox avoided a sweep in Seattle.

Ortiz connected for a two-run shot off the windows of the cafe in right field at Safeco Field against Hisashi Iwakuma (5-4).

Clay Buchholz (3-4) got the win and Koji Uehara earned his 16th save in 17 tries.

Orioles 5, White Sox 4, 12 innings

In Baltimore, Nelson Cruz hit a tying grand slam in the eighth inning and David Lough scored the winning run on a wild pitch in the 12th, sending the Baltimore Orioles over the Chicago White Sox.

There was a rain delay of more than an hour after the ninth inning ended.

Nick Hundley opened the bottom of the 12th with a walk off Daniel Webb (4-2) and Lough entered as a pinch-runner. Lough took third on a single by Nick Markakis and scored easily when Webb uncorked a pitch that got past catcher Tyler Flowers.

Dodgers 5, Royals 4

In Kansas City, Missouri, Wade Davis plunked A.J. Ellis with the bases loaded and two outs

in the eighth inning, sending the Los Angeles Dodgers past Kansas City.

Jamey Wright (3-2) threw 2 2-3 scoreless innings. Brian Wilson handled the ninth in place of closer Kenley Jansen for his first save since April 12, 2012.

Indians 6, Diamondbacks 1

In Phoenix, Corey Kluber gave Cleveland a much-needed quality start, pitching seven effective innings to help beat Arizona and end a four-game losing streak.

The Indians ran through their bullpen in a 14-inning game the night before Kluber (7-5) gave them a lift.

Athletics 8, Mets 5

In New York, Yoenis Cespedes hit a three-run double and slumping Brandon Moss had a two-run homer as the Oakland Athletics jumped all over an ineffective Zack Wheeler and the New York Mets.

Coco Crisp homered and had three hits as the AL West leaders built an eight-run cushion for Brad Mills (1-0), who took a shutout into the seventh inning for his first major league victory in almost two years.

Oakland rebounded from its most lopsided loss of the season to split the two-game interleague series, boosting the best record in baseball to 48-30. The

Mets had won three straight.

Marlins 3, Phillies 2

In Philadelphia, Jarrod Saltalamacchia hit a two-run double for Miami, and Henderson Alvarez threw 6 2-3 strong innings.

Alvarez (5-3) allowed two runs—one earned—and seven hits. He is 3-0 with an 0.78 ERA in his last seven starts.

Steve Cishek struck out the side in the ninth for his 18th save in 19 tries.

Reds 4, Cubs 1

In Chicago, Mat Latos pitched seven impressive innings for his first win of the season and Jay Bruce had two run-scoring doubles that led Cincinnati.

With the wind blowing in on a cold summer night, Devin Mesoraco's five-game homer streak came to an end. The Reds catcher was tied with Adam Dunn, Ken Griffey Jr., Johnny Bench, George Crowe and Ted Kluszewski for the franchise record.

Latos (1-0) allowed one run and five hits in his third start after beginning the season on the disabled list. Aroldis Chapman pitched the ninth for his 14th save in 15 chances.

Edwin Jackson (5-8) allowed four runs and six hits in 5 1-3 innings for Chicago, which has dropped four of five.

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Wiggins, Parker and more LeBron on NBA draft eve

By BRIAN MAHONEY
AP BASKETBALL WRITER



NEW YORK (AP) — Andrew Wiggins and Jabari Parker aren't NBA players yet and they are already learning their first lesson.

This is LeBron James' league and they will just be playing in it.

A night before they could be the first two selections in what appears to be a deep NBA draft, Wiggins, Parker and the rest of the class of 2014 were sharing the spotlight with James, whose decision to opt out of his contract and become a free agent Tuesday still had the league shaking a day later.

Carmelo Anthony has the same plan as James, and right now they are a 1-2 that Wiggins and Parker can't match.

"They're going to dictate how this draft goes," Parker said Wednesday.

The Cleveland Cavaliers have the No. 1 selection for a second straight year, and either Wiggins or Parker would be an improvement over Anthony Bennett, who had a forgettable rookie season. Wiggins, like Bennett, is Canadian, and would love to be called first Thursday.

"It'd mean a lot to me. It'd mean a lot to my country, too,"

the freshman from Kansas said.

When his Jayhawks teammate, Joel Embiid, broke his foot, it strengthened the chances of Wiggins going first. Or perhaps it could be Parker, the versatile freshman from Duke.

Or, as Parker realizes, perhaps the Cavs will decide a trade is the best option.

A deal with Minnesota for Kevin Love would bring the Cavaliers an All-Star and might make a return to Cleveland more appealing for James. So Parker said he would understand if the Cavs dealt the pick.

Perhaps some other team with aspirations of James or Anthony will shake up the draft by making a move that gets them ready for July 1.

"You never know what they want to do," Parker said, "whether organizations want to trade picks to create a little bit more money. So you never know in this business."

Milwaukee picks second, followed by Philadelphia, Orlando, Utah and a couple teams not used to picking this high: Boston and the Los Angeles Lakers.

Here are five things to watch at Barclays Center in Brooklyn:

■■■

DEEP DRAFT: Last year's draft was woefully short on star power, with Bennett hardly alone among high picks who made little or no impact. This

class appears to be strong well beyond the first few names, with Julius Randle (Kentucky), Marcus Smart (Oklahoma State), Aaron Gordon (Arizona) and Noah Vonleh (Indiana) highlighting some enticing choices from power schools.

"And it's crazy because everybody knows from the top on through 15, the lottery, that it's a lot of talented guys in there and it's deep," Smart said. "But not only that, you can go down to the second round and late first, it's still a lot of great talent in those bottom rankings. So this class is probably, I think is one of the better draft classes to ever have and it shows."

■■■

HEAT HELP?: Miami needs a roster upgrade, and Shabazz Napier of national champion Connecticut was aware of an ESPN report that the Heat have targeted him as a player who can provide it. The point guard seemed flattered but didn't know if anything would come of it.

"I definitely worked out with the Miami Heat, so at the end of the day I can't do nothing besides just get ready to figure out who's going to draft me," he said.

■■■

PICKING PLENTY: The 76ers have two top-10 picks and five more in the second round. Phoenix has Nos. 14, 18

and 27, while Orlando (4 and 12), Utah (5 and 23), Boston (6 and 17), Charlotte (9 and 24), Chicago (16 and 19) and Oklahoma City (21 and 29) have multiple first-round selections. Brooklyn, Golden State, Portland and New Orleans currently have no picks.

■■■

PARKER'S PHYSIQUE:

If the Cavs pass on Parker, he doesn't think it should be because of concerns about his fitness, disputing a reported poor workout for Cleveland.

"If you put a treadmill right here, we can have a contest and we all can judge that," said the 6-foot-8, 235-pound forward, acknowledging surprise at the criticism.

"I'm not no couch potato. I'm not going to flip the channels. I love to play basketball and you can find me playing that almost every day."

■■■

EMBIID'S, EXUM'S ENTRANCES:

Though surgery to repair a stress fracture in his right foot on top of a late-season back injury appear to have ended Embiid's hopes of going No. 1, the center from Kansas might be hard to pass up by one of the multiple-pick teams because of his potential. Dante Exum, the point guard from Australia, could go right around the same time in the top five.

Rockets send Asik to Pels, prepare for LeBron run

Houston Rockets GM Daryl Morey has earned a reputation for being one of the most aggressive, think-big executives in the NBA. And it's impossible to think any bigger than LeBron James.

The Rockets took the first big step toward making a run at James by agreeing to trade Omer Asik and cash considerations to the New Orleans Pelicans for a protected future first-round draft pick, a person with knowledge of the situation told The Associated Press on Wednesday night.

The person requested anonymity because the deal cannot be completed until July due to rules in the collective bargaining agreement and salary cap issues.

James informed the Miami Heat earlier this week that he is opting out of his contract and will become a free agent when the new league year begins on July 1. Carmelo Anthony did the same with the New York Knicks, meaning two of the most dynamic players in the league are available in the same summer.

Morey, whose Rockets were eliminated by the Portland Trail Blazers in the first round of the playoffs this

season, wants to bring a third star to Houston to team with James Harden and Dwight Howard. To do that, Morey has to free up cap room by trading Asik, a disgruntled big man who requested a trade last season after Howard took his starting spot, and point guard Jeremy Lin to give him about \$19 million to throw at James.

Many across the league expect James to remain in Miami, where Pat Riley is trying to retool a roster that won two championships and made four straight NBA Finals but was beaten decisively in five games by the San Antonio Spurs to end this season.

But Morey can offer James a younger roster with two supporting cast members who are much closer to their primes than Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh.

If they swing and miss on James, Morey is expected to turn his attention to Anthony, perhaps the game's best pure scorer. He could also look at trading for Minnesota All-Star Kevin Love, who can opt out of his contract next summer and has told the Timberwolves that he will not sign a long-term contract with the team.



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Djokovic, Stepanek entertain at Wimbledon



with my heart."

Stepanek said he was surprised by Djokovic's gesture to give him the point. At 5-all in the third set, Djokovic had a game point on his serve when Stepanek hit a backhand that was called long. After Stepanek successfully challenged the call,

AP

Novak Djokovic of Serbia, left, embraces Radek Stepanek of the Czech Republic, right, after winning their men's singles match at the All England Lawn Tennis Championships in Wimbledon, London, Wednesday, June 25, 2014.

Djokovic conceded the point even though it could have been replayed.

"That's why I asked the whole crowd to clap," Stepanek said. "It was incredible sportsmanship and it proves just what a great champion he is."

Djokovic played down the move.

"For me it's just natural, just something that is normal to do," he said. "I felt like I had no chance to play that ball, (so) of course I would concede the point. I've done it a few times in the past. OK, yes, the point was very important. ..."

Emon Lodge caging final meeting today



The Emon Lodge No.179 Brotherhood Basketball League will hold its final

Gymnasium. So far, six teams have already confirmed their participation in the masters league, which is being sponsored by Docomo Pacific.

Teams are allowed to have only 12 players on their rosters. Squads must also pay the \$500 entrance fee. Representatives/coaches of participating teams are asked to list the complete names of their players and their chosen jersey numbers. Teams should also provide organizers with a photocopy of registration and waiver forms filled up by each player.

For more information, contact Bong Malasarte at 287-5525, Peter Crisostomo at 483-2356, Jun Eslaban at 989-8771, and Abner Venus at 888-3215. (PR)



LONDON
(AP)—The Centre Court match at Wimbledon featured only two service breaks, but wait, there was much, much more:

- Novak Djokovic giving away a point to Radek Stepanek that could have been replayed following an over-rule on a line call during a crucial time in the match, a move seldom seen in tennis.

- Stepanek cutting his right knee on one of his dozen or so falls on the grass during

the 3-hour, 17-minute second-round match Wednesday.

- And on the final point of the match, a successful challenge by Djokovic on a call originally called out, with Stepanek getting down on his hands and knees in a prayer pose.

"Today in the challenges I was so unlucky, a millimeter here, a millimeter there," Stepanek said. "I guess I hoped and I prayed that one time it will go with me."

It didn't. Djokovic's forehand cross-court pass was ruled in after the video replay showed the ball landed on the

line. Djokovic completed a 6-4, 6-3, 6-7 (5), 7-6 (5) win. The two players, good friends and frequent practice partners, hugged at the net.

The third-set tiebreaker featured each player winning five points in a row - Djokovic to take a 5-2 lead, only to have Stepanek come back to take it 7-5.

"I was two sets up, I had some break-point chances in the third and should have closed it out in the third-set tiebreak," Djokovic said. "But credit to him for fighting. He's 35 years old and still moving very well and surface wise grass is probably his

most preferred. He loves to engage the crowd."

That Stepanek did, with his give-it-all style of play swaying the Centre Court spectators his way late in the match. Stepanek repeatedly made unsuccessful challenges on line calls. When he finally got one right, he looked up to the skies in relief.

Stepanek said he couldn't recall ever falling down so many times in a match.

"Maybe not, but that's the way I play on grass, you have a little bit of comfort," he said. "But that's how I play anyway,

Australia. Scott recorded 56.66 seconds in the finale.

Beo Ngirchongor also com-

peted in the 400m race for the

men's senior division and nearly

advanced to the semifinals. He

completed the race in 53.26

seconds to finish at No. 7 over-

all. The Top 6 runners marched

into the semifinals. Papua New

Guinea's Nelson Stone had the

best qualifier time at 48.38 sec-

onds, while his teammate Theo Piniau, who was ranked second in the qualifier, stole first place in the finals with a time of 48.49 seconds.

Ngirchongor did the 400m race in the morning and came back at the track in the afternoon for the 200m run. He posted 23.89 seconds in his second event to finish ahead of six other runners. Ngir-

chongor missed the cut, but defeated Kiribati's Kiatau Cama (23.94 seconds) and Nooa Takooa (24.13 seconds), Solomon Islands' Chris Meke Walasi (24.17 seconds), Vanuatu's David Tasol Maki (24.18 seconds), Palau's Ian Basiou Koshiba (24.22 seconds), and Guam's Michael Alisto (24.51 seconds). Stone had the fastest qualifying time (21.79 sec-

onds) and also won in the finals with the same time.

Ngirchongor and his two other teammates are accompanied by Northern Marianas Athletics coach Elias Rangamar. The area championship served as a warm-up for CNMI athletes getting ready for the 8th Micronesian Games, which will be held later next month in Fiji.

ciplinary panel member Martin Hong told reporters. "It's our duty to see justice done."

Messi drew level with Barcelona teammate Neymar when he pounced on a rebound in the third minute and then curled a free kick shortly before the break had put Argentina ahead again. Marcos Roja finally sealed Argentina's win in the 50th.

In Salvador, Edin Dzeko, Miralem Pjanic and Avdija Vrsajevic got Bosnia's goals in its historic win and Reza Ghoochamnejhad scored for Iran, which had to win and hope Nigeria lost to progress.

Iran coach Carlos Queiroz quit following his team's exit, as did Japan's Italian manager Alberto Zaccheroni and coach Luis Suarez of Honduras. Their Portugal counterpart Paul Bento, however, said he would stay on even if his team fails to qualify for the round of 16.

Portugal, the world's No.4-ranked team, has just one point from its first two Group G games and is unlikely to

reach the knockout stage even if it beats Ghana in Brasilia on Thursday.

While the World Cup goal glut continued on the pitch — with the exception of the France-Ecuador stalemate, Suarez was again hogging headlines with his latest alleged biting incident.

If FIFA rules that Suarez sank his teeth into Chiellini's shoulder, it could suspend him for up to 24 matches or sideline him for a maximum of two years. The Uruguay and Liverpool star is a repeat offender — he has twice been sanctioned for biting in his turbulent past, first in the Dutch league in 2010 when playing for Ajax and again in 2013 while in a Liverpool shirt. He also has been banned for racially abusing an opponent in England.

The latest scandal could cost Suarez more than time on the

sidelines. Already, two of his sponsors — 888poker and Adidas — have hinted that they are looking closely at their deals with Suarez.

Meanwhile, tragedy struck in Nigeria before the country's clash with Argentina, as an explosion killed at least 21 people in a shopping mall in the capital, Abuja. Many shops at the mall have TV screens but it was unclear if the explosion was timed to coincide with the match, which started an hour later.

Nigeria coach Stephen Keshi said he was saddened by news of the blast and that his team's progression to the second round is unlikely to offer any solace to the country as it suffers terrorist attacks. Nigeria is the first African nation to reach the knockout stages in Brazil.

"How much of a victory is football going to give for those lives?" he said.

PHILLIP

From Page 32

two notches, as she placed eighth in the event. Australia's Maddy Scott ruled the qualifier with her 57.88 seconds, but settled for third place in the finals, as she lost to champion and compatriot Grace Victor (55.99 seconds) and Jessica Haig (56.44 seconds) also of

CLUB

From Page 32

Bosnia recorded its first ever World Cup victory in the day's other match, downing Iran 3-1 as both teams exited the tournament.

The Swiss will next face Messi and Argentina on Tuesday in Sao Paulo. France plays Nigeria in Brasilia on Monday.

One player who may not be in the reckoning for tournament top scorer is Luis Suarez, who is the focus of a FIFA disciplinary investigation after he appeared to bite the left shoulder of Italy defender Giorgio Chiellini on Tuesday and could be facing a lengthy ban.

He should know soon if he will be sanctioned. Uruguay plays Colombia Saturday in the round of 16.

"We have to resolve it either today or tomorrow," FIFA dis-

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	44	36	.550	—
Baltimore	41	36	.532	1 1/2
New York	40	37	.519	2 1/2
Boston	36	43	.456	7 1/2
Tampa Bay	32	48	.400	12

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	42	32	.568	—
Kansas City	40	38	.513	4
Cleveland	38	40	.487	6
Minnesota	36	40	.474	7
Chicago	36	43	.456	8 1/2

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	48	30	.615	—
Los Angeles	43	33	.566	4
Seattle	42	37	.532	6 1/2
Texas	35	42	.455	12 1/2
Houston	33	46	.418	15 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	41	36	.532	—
Atlanta	40	37	.519	1
Miami	39	39	.500	2 1/2
New York	36	42	.462	5 1/2
Philadelphia	35	42	.455	6

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	48	32	.600	—
St. Louis	43	36	.544	4 1/2
Cincinnati	39	38	.506	7 1/2
Pittsburgh	39	39	.500	8
Chicago	32	44	.421	14

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	46	32	.590	—
Los Angeles	44	36	.550	3
Colorado	35	43	.449	11
San Diego	34			

Diana dominates; Percy prevails in June roll-offs

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

 Diana Camacho bagged her second win of the season, while Percy Omechelang notched his first, as the two veteran bowlers triumphed in Saipan Bowling Association's Budweiser King and Queen of the Lanes Tournament for June held over the weekend at the Saipan Bowling Center.

Camacho, who ruled the April roll-offs, showed consistency in both days of the monthly competition, earning 707 pinfalls last Saturday and 724 last Sunday. Her 707 pinfalls in Day 1 of the tournament gave her a one-pinfall lead over four-time winner Kathy Mersai. Camacho managed to take a shaky lead last Saturday, as she started strong with 216 pinfalls in Game 1 before scoring 186, 149, and 156 in the last three games. Mersai also had a 200-plus pinfall output in Game 3 (208) to go with her 178 and 160s for total of 706 pinfalls. Janice Camacho joined Diana Camacho and Mersai in the Top 3 in Day 1 after collecting 640 pinfalls (126, 164, 164, and 156).

In Day 2, Diana Camacho played even better, capping her weekend dominance with a 207-pinfall performance in Game 4. Her three other scores were 153, 170, and 194. She was the lone female bowler to tally at least 700 pinfalls last Sunday, as Gloria Omechelang, who knocked in 616 in Day 1 for fifth place, managed only 675 in Day 2 and settle for the third place honors, bumping off Janice Camacho. Bowlers are allowed to compete in both days of the tournament, but only the higher score is counted.

Six other female keglers joined the Queen of the Lanes



Diana Camacho, left, and Percy Omechelang pose for a photo after winning the SBA Budweiser June roll-offs last weekend at the Saipan Bowling Center.

roll-offs for June with Gigi Zapanta placing fifth with her 633 pinfalls, followed by Yho Villavicencio (631), Myrna Santos (629), Carrie Camacho (610), Ron Cal (593), and Elena Soll (593).

In the King of the Lanes, Percy Omechelang snatched the top spot from Day 1 leader Raymond Angeles. Omechelang, who also bowled in Day 1 but his 701 pinfalls just landed him at No. 4, finished on top in Day 2 with his 851 pinfalls. Omechelang began the final day of the tournament with 193 pinfalls and came out smoking in the last three, posting 200-plus pinfalls in all three occasions (210, 243, 205) for a 212.75 average and 24-pinfall win over Robert Talavera.

Talavera, who was also in second place in Day 1 with his 810 pinfalls, fell short in his bid for a fourth monthly as he knocked down 183 pins in Game 4. Talavera, who pre-

vailed in the first three monthly competitions, was behind by only two pinfalls against Omechelang after three games, 644-646, after the former recorded 193, 236, and 215 in the first three games.

Joining Omechelang and Talavera in the Top 3 was Angeles, who also played in Day 2, but was a bit off gathering only 712 pinfalls (180, 203, 159, and 170). Angeles' Day 1 total of 817 pinfalls (229, 199, 172, and 214) gave him the third place finish.

Other bowlers who participated in the June roll-offs were Lito Teodoro (783), Bernard Paraiso (726), Tito Corpuz (698), Simon Manacop (693), Rusty Musca (687), Raphael Zapanta (685), Jae Yong Kim (678), Yong Woon Lee (673), Raul Dumapit (671), Ronald Batac (653), Paul Pangelinan (636), Raymond Zapanta (619), Ben Aizon (573), and Roger Vales (571).

3-way tie for early lead in Tan Holdings caging

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Shirley's Coffee Shop, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, and Kanoa Resort forged a three-way deadlock for the early lead in the 2014 Tan Holdings Inter-Company Basketball League after defeating their respective foes last Saturday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Shirley's hammered *Saipan Tribune/Realty Management Service* in the last game, 90-71, to improve to a 2-0 record, the same mark Kanoa and Fiesta hold after topping POI, 81-73, and CTSI/D&Q/SSBC, 88-63, respectively.

Fiesta played CTSI in the curtain-raiser and went on a third-quarter breakaway en route to the 25-point winning margin. Ahead by only 2 at halftime, 40-38, Fiesta scored its most points in the third, drilling 28 for a commanding 68-49 advantage, entering the final canto.

Adonis Macoto starred in the pivotal third quarter for Fiesta, firing 10 markers and almost matching the entire output of CTSI, which was held to 11. Paul Quizon backed up Macoto in the third-quarter assault, delivering 8 of his 9 markers in that period.

Fiesta went on to keep its wide margin, as CTSI still struggled offensively in the fourth, making only five field goals.

In the second game, Matt Duenas had another explosive game for Kanoa Resort to lift his team to the 8-point win. Duenas, who had 33 points in their 82-66 triumph over *Saipan Tribune/RMS*, earned 30 markers against POI.

The former Saipan Southern High School standout hit Kanoa's last 8 points in the third period, turning a 40-31 half-time advantage to a 15-point bubble, 64-49, going into the payoff canto. In the final frame, Ferdie Arago tried to bring POI back in the game with his successive baskets, while burly forward Cisco Cruz countered with his own string of points in the closing minutes to help Kanoa gain its second consecutive win.

Cruz finished in twin digits with his 12, while Mico Usi and Fred Litulumar added 13 apiece. Arago paced POI with his 26 points.

In the third game, Shirley's capitalized on a depleted *Saipan Tribune/RMS* team to cruise to its second win.

Shirley's set the tone of the match early, taking a 23-10 advantage in the first period. The lead ballooned to 19 at the break, 43-24, as Shirley's kept pounding the five-man crew of *Saipan Tribune/RMS*, which lost Rowell Caduan to injury in the first canto.

Five Shirley's players scored at least 5 points each in their first half domination, while only Mark Rabago and Ferdie De La Torre consistently hit their shots for *Saipan Tribune/RMS* in the first 20 minutes of play.



Shirley's continued its balanced offense in the second half, while a visibly tired *Saipan Tribune/RMS* waved the white flag at the halfway mark of the fourth canto with the former ahead by 21 points.

First Game

Fiesta Resort 88 – Demafelix 17, Esdrelon 17, Macoto 15, Quizon 9, Villamena 8, Jared 8, Galag 6.

CTSI 63 – Jinang 18, Salazar 14, Cordel 9, Garcia 7, Nieves 4, Echavez 3.

Scoring by quarters: 16-20, 40-38, 68-49, 88-63.

Second Game

Kanoa Resort 81 – Duenas 30, Usi 13, Litulumar 13, Cruz 12, Armia 5, Villanueva 3, De Leon 3.

POI 73 – Arago 26, Tenepere 16, Villanueva 16, Iglesias 5, Acosta 3, Kim 3, Salamat 3.

Scoring by quarters: 27-11, 40-31, 64-49, 81-73.

Third Game

Shirley's 90 – Sedillo 20, Yap 18, Jugos 14, Usi 9, Laxa 8, Catungal 8, Nicdao 6, Dela Rosa 5, Drillon 2.

Saipan Tribune/RMS 71 – Rabago 31, J. Ong 15, De La Torre 15, Pajarillaga 6, Regis 4.

Scoring by quarters: 23-10, 43-24, 69-46, 90-71.

Tsunami Saipan starts summer courses

 **Tsunami**
Tsunami Swimming Center
Saipan has began its summer



Tsunami Saipan swimmers assist participants of the summer swim course that started at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool early this month.

swimming courses early this month, offering three classes at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.

Sessions in the summer swim course are held every Monday, Friday, and Saturday from 5pm to 6pm and interested swimmers age 4 to 12 can choose to enter Level I, II, or III classes.

The Level I course is for children who can't swim. At the session, they will be taught how to get comfortable in the water. Participants will learn breathing patterns and techniques, kicking tips, and other fun water activities.

For Level II, swimmers will learn how to kick using the board, breathing techniques on freestyle swims, and introduction to backstroke event. Confidence while in the water will be also enhanced.

For Level III, participants will practice streamline kick

and breathing in the water for more than 10 seconds. They will also learn breathing skills while doing freestyle and backstroke swims.

Tsunami Saipan head coach Hiro Kimura said participants who will show significant improvement after the course can advance to the club's athlete course and eventually join the pool of Tsunami Saipan's swimmers.

The course will continue until next month and interested participants are allowed to report at the venue 10 minutes before the start time. Swimming cap, goggles, and kick board are needed and they are available for sale at the pool.

For more information, send email to tsunamisaipan@yahoo.co.jp. (Roselyn B. Monroyo)

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Shirley's Coffee Shop's Fradel Sedillo escapes with a fastbreak layup against *Saipan Tribune/RMS* during the fourth quarter of their one-sided game in the Tan Holdings caging last Saturday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.



Giants'
Lincecum
pitches 2nd no-
hitter vs Padres
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Saipan Tribune Sports

Wiggins, Parker
and more
LeBron on NBA
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Phillip makes grade in Oceania tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI's Brandon Phillip survived the qualifying heat in the 100m race in the 2014 Oceania Area Championships being held in Rarotonga, Cook Islands.

Phillip clocked in at 11.72 seconds in the preliminary race for the junior 100m event last Tuesday, placing third on Heat 2 and getting one of the three qualifying slots to the semifinals. The 19-year-old sprinter finished behind Australia's Vandeh Kanneh and Utiraoi Takaria, who submitted 11.13 and 11.37 seconds, respectively. Fiji's Apolosi Ratumudu recorded the fastest qualifying time in the 100m with his 10.75 seconds to lead 18 others to the semis.

In the semis, Phillip missed surpassing his qualifying time after logging 11.80 seconds, but managed to beat Niue's Ronyuka Nukanuka (11.94 seconds) and the host's Cajuniba Okirua (12.33 seconds). Ratumudu still topped the semis race with

a faster time of 10.67 seconds before winning the junior event with a finals

time of 10.77 seconds. The Fiji sprinter finished third overall in the finals behind Australia's Nicholas Bate (10.65 seconds) and Tonga's Peauope Suli Fifita (10.76 seconds).

Phillip also joined the qualifying heat in the senior 100m race yesterday, but results were unavailable at press time. He was the youngest runner among the 29 participants in the 100m sprint.

Meanwhile, two other CNMI athletes are also competing in the area championships.

Zarinae Sapong raced in the women's junior 400m and registered 68.49 seconds, missing the semifinal round by only

See PHILLIP on Page 30



Wiggins, Parker
and more
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WORLD CUP 2014 FEVER

QUESTIONS: What is the name of the official 2014 FIFA World Cup mascot and what animal is it?

MECHANICS: 1 The first 5 persons to give correct answers will get prizes from SSS. 2 Winners are allowed to win only once a week. All age groups are eligible to join. 3 Answers can be sent via Facebook (@Saipan SoccerSchool) or Twitter (@SpnSoccerSchool). 4 Winners will be contacted through Facebook and Twitter. Prizes can be claimed at the SSS office at the JP Centre on Beach Road, from 9am to 10am every Thursday (for Wednesday issue) and Monday (for Friday issue).

WORLD CUP 2014 BRACKET LAYOUT

TAKE YOUR PICK: In addition to its trivia contest, SSS will give prizes to individuals who can guess the teams that will advance to the semifinals and finals of the World Cup 2014. More details to follow.

GROUP A
BRAZIL, CROATIA, MEXICO, CAMEROON

GROUP B
SPAIN, NETHERLANDS, CHILE, AUSTRALIA

GROUP C
COLOMBIA, GREECE, CÔTE D'IVOIRE, JAPAN

GROUP D
URUGUAY, COSTA RICA, ENGLAND, ITALY

GROUP E
SWITZERLAND, ECUADOR, FRANCE, HONDURAS

GROUP F
ARGENTINA, BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA, IRAN, NIGERIA

GROUP G
GERMANY, PORTUGAL, GHANA, USA

GROUP H
BELGIUM, ALGERIA, RUSSIA, KOREA

CHAMPION

3RD PLACE

1G, **2H**, **1H**, **2G**

QUARTER-FINALS, **SEMI-FINALS**, **SEMI-FINALS**, **QUARTER-FINALS**

Club teammates
Messi, Neymar
top World Cup



MIKE CORDER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—The race for the World Cup golden boot turned into a Barcelona battle Wednesday as Lionel Messi scored twice to lead Argentina to an entertaining 3-2 win over Nigeria and match Neymar's tournament-leading four goals in three games for Brazil.

Xherdan Shaqiri also vaulted into contention by scoring a hat trick as Switzerland beat Honduras 3-0 to qualify second in Group F. He joined Karim Benzema and Enner Valencia, who could not add to their three tournament goals each as France played out a 0-0 draw against 10-man Ecuador that ensured the French won Group E.

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